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September is Beijing's best month. It is. I can hear you saying, 'What about May?' But I will not listen. As I write this, I am staring out my office window into the nasty bowels of August below, and dreaming of the September to come. September is the one month where we Beijingers can count on the weather to be neither too hot nor too cold. And when it's nice out, Beijing feels like the greatest city on Earth. This feeling is very rare. Appreciate it.

Ironically, we welcome this characteristically low-pollution season with a cover story on smoking. For the first time in recent history, the number of smokers in China has dropped – and while a lot of that has to do with public smoking bans, it also has to do with vapes. Yes, we're talking about those weird gadgets sold at shops with ridiculous names like Vape Saint and Vape Professor (actual Beijing stores). You might think vapes are American, given their stores' bro-ey subculture and penchant for playing hip-hop, but they are a Chinese invention. Read more about their growing role in Chinese smoking culture in Jocelyn Richards' piece, p. 38.

Elsewhere in the magazine, Oscar Holland gives us the non-athlete's guide to cycling Taiwan (p. 20); Erica Martin shares her pick of the best new Chinese albums (p. 35); and I check out Migas Mercado, which is every bit as cool as we hoped (p. 52).

Finally, we're excited to announce the debut of our *That's Tianjin* website and app. If you – like many Beijingers – find yourself in our sister city often, it is an essential source of events, listings and news. And even if you don't, well – maybe it's time for you to visit.

Until next month,



Noelle Mateer
Editor-in-Chief

THAT'S TIANJIN GOES DIGITAL



Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen... and now Tianjin. We're proud to announce that we are adding a Tianjin section to our website and app, as well as launching a *That's Tianjin* WeChat account. News, events, listings, guides and giveaways – we've got the lot. Scan the QR codes below to follow us on WeChat and download *That's App*, and visit thatsmags.com/tianjin.



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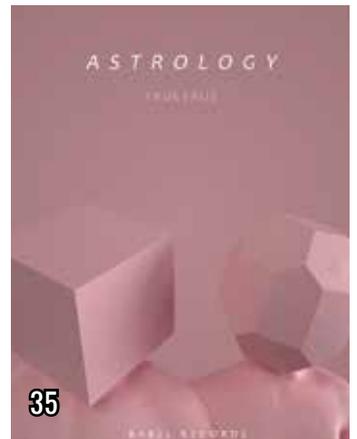
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A Hong Kong-based photographer sees buildings from a different angle



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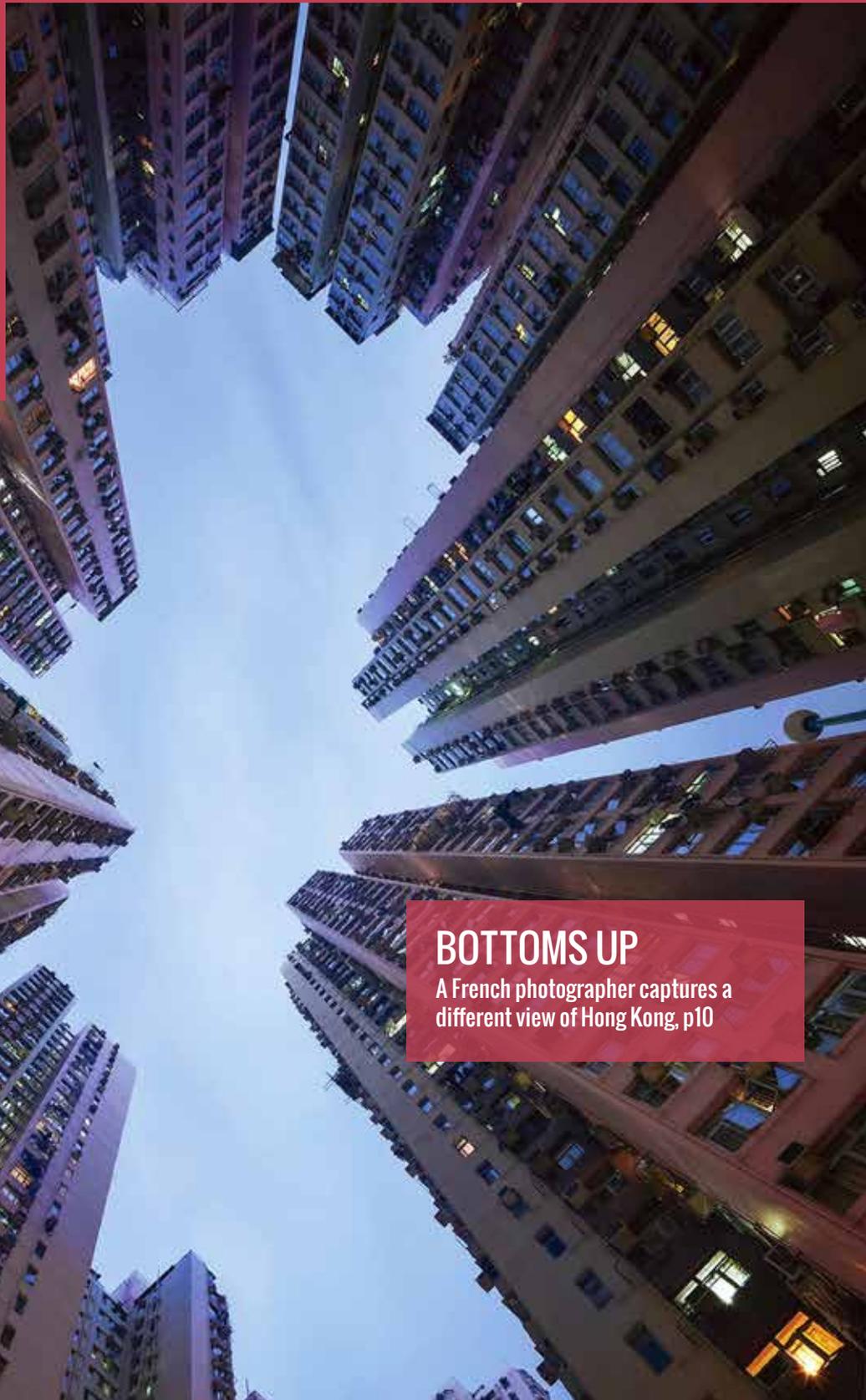
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PLUGIN HOUSES: THE SOLUTION TO BEIJING'S SKY-HIGH HOUSING PRICES?

words by Justine Lopez, image by Gao Tianxia

Last month, a tiny Beijing home dubbed the Plugin House was shortlisted for the Beazley Designs of the Year 2017 award. The home, created by the private design firm People's Architecture Office (PAO) was also shortlisted for the World Architecture Festival's World Building of the Year award in July.

The recognitions top off a successful half-year for the home. PAO designed the structure in December 2016 with the intention of creating an affordable solution to the capital's rising house prices. The result is a "plugin house" – a small, stylish dwelling that might just represent the future of affordable housing in the capital.

What makes the plugin house so ingenious is that it only costs USD10,000 (RMB66,500) and can be built in less than 24 hours using nothing more than a simple tool.

The design was inspired by Beijing native Ms. Fan who was struggling to cope with the city's rental and real estate prices – property prices in Beijing have risen almost 10 percent over the past year and the city has the world's least affordable rental housing, according to the *Financial Times*. So, Fan was faced with a decision to either move to the suburbs or remain living in a small dilapidated home located in her parent's hutong

courtyard. Unsatisfied with her options, Fan commissioned PAO to help.

PAO was tasked with creating a comfortable and affordable living space for Fan and her young son, as well as adhering to Beijing's strict and ever-evolving housing codes.

The plugin house was a first for the architecture firm. Built in Changchun Jie – a historic hutong in central Beijing – the home's USD10,000 price tag means it costs 30 times less than other apartments located in the same hutong. But there are more perks to Fan's plugin home than just affordability.

The prefabricated home is so simple to 'build' that it can easily be put together by non-professionals in less than 24 hours using nothing more than a hand wrench. The module comes equipped with wiring, insulation and waterproofing.

It is also designed to be efficient, livable and stylish. PAO designed Fan's plugin house with skylights to provide natural sunlight and the illusion of space. A rooftop deck was added to maximize the living area. Unlike hutong homes – which do not have running water – Fan's plugin house is equipped with a kitchen and bathroom, which uses a composting toilet system.

POA's design also takes into account

Beijing's increasingly strict housing codes. Because it is located in a traditional hutong neighborhood, Fan's home was built so that it would not block sunlight, ventilation or neighbors' views. Because the rules are always changing, the plugin house was designed so that owners can easily change the layout of their home and even cut off sections of the structure, if needed.

Not only is Beijing one of the most expensive cities in the world to rent a home, but according to a recent study by Shanghai-based E-House China R&D Institute, Beijingers spend almost three-fifths of their paychecks on rent.

Following the success of PAO's plugin house, these tiny and relatively cheap homes might be the solution many in the capital have been looking for.

The winners of the Beazley Awards will be announced in January.

THE BUZZ

GENERATION GAP

What do you like about living in Beijing?

LEI, 23



I like the environment. By that I mean the urban vibe. I like how busy the city is, and how fresh everything is, especially compared to Jilin, where I'm from. Things there aren't nearly as big or busy as they are here. The buildings, technology and work opportunities are better here too.

HAN, 59



I like how Beijing has many interesting and historical sightseeing spots within the city itself. The areas around Houhai, Xihai and Beihai are great for a quick trip, even for local Beijingers like myself. I prefer to visit these places over the week because they're too crowded during the weekend. The public transport is pretty convenient here too – we can easily access all the fun spots, which is great.

As told to Vivian Liu and Yuka Hayashi



FIGHTING FIT

An 80-year-old Laobeijing practices martial arts in Beihai Park last month. Regulars say the man has practiced for over a decade, rain or shine.

RUN OF THE TREADMILL

Beijing's latest sharing service is mini-gyms, with a handful of gym pods popping up around the capital last month. Measuring 5sqm, each contains a treadmill, AC unit, fan, air purifier and TV. Similar to other sharing concepts, users simply download an app ("Mipao"), make a (refundable) RMB99 deposit, then schedule an appointment. Upon reaching their mini-gym of choice, users scan the QR code and are good to go. The fee is RMB1 for five minutes and the gyms are open round-the-clock. The gym creator, a Beijing-based startup called Misspao, hopes to open 1,000 mini-gyms in the city by the end of the year.





300+

... is the number of high-definition cameras that have been placed along the Great Wall in an effort to curb vandalism. The move came last month after photos of tourist graffiti at the wall's Badaling section went viral online. The local government has also commissioned patrol teams to scour the area. Tourists have a long history of etching names, images and phrases into the wall, and the widely circulated images show vandalism in Chinese, Korean and English. Those caught vandalizing will be banned from visiting the site, and also fined.

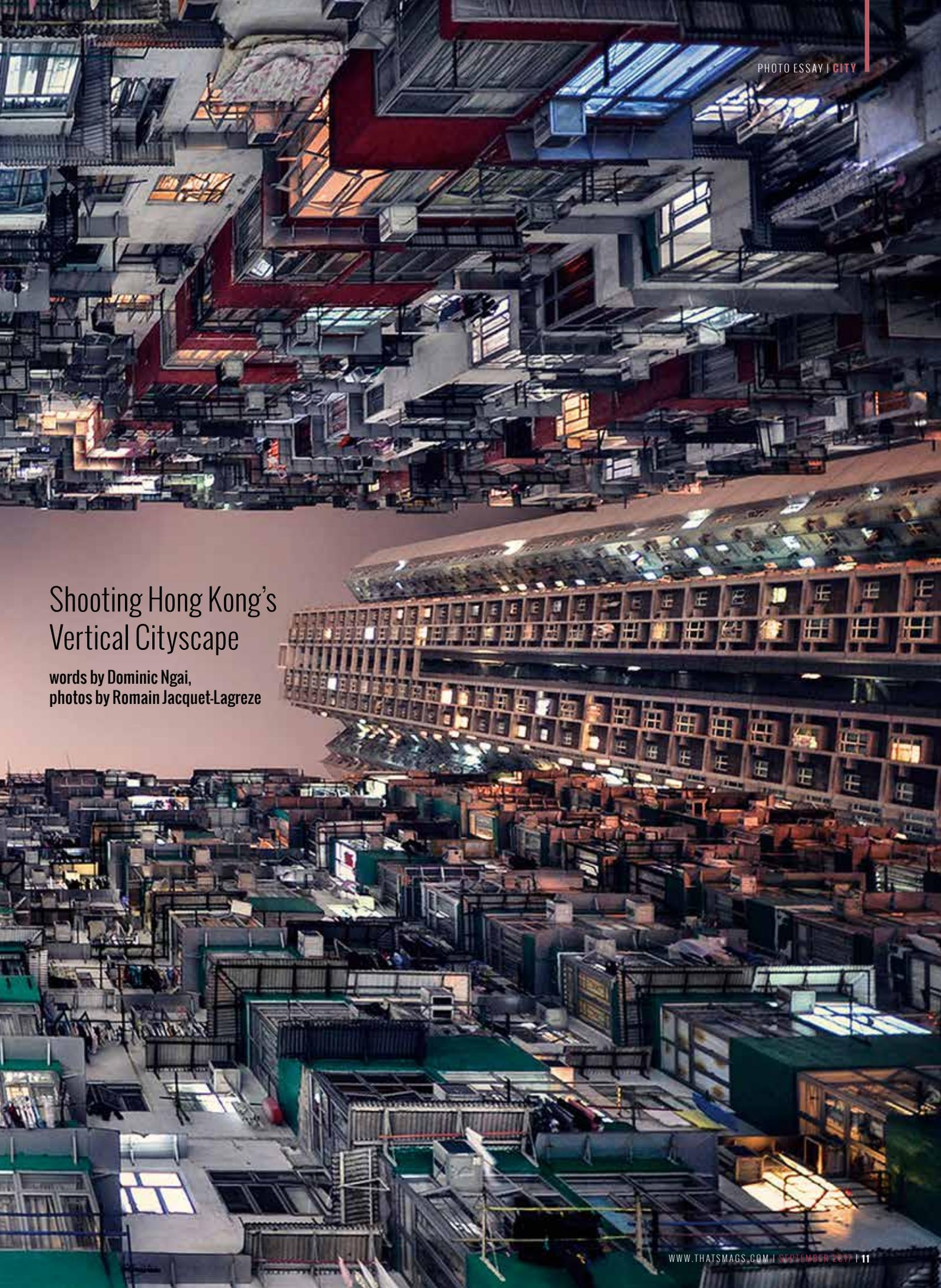
“We can almost tell how bad [subway pollution] is just by smelling”

Zhao Ang, director of the Rock Environment and Energy Institute (REEI), on a recent study of air pollution levels on the Beijing Subway. The air quality is so poor that it might be hazardous to commuters' health. Volunteers took air-quality readings from 10 major lines around the capital during rush hour on Friday nights. The data shows that PM2.5 levels were 127 micrograms per cubic meter during warmer months, while during winter, the levels were 154 micrograms per cubic meter. The worst offender was Line 8, and the lowest levels of PM2.5 were found on Line 13. Researchers say that commuters who ride the Beijing subway for 16 years are 1.83 percent more at risk from dying from heart disease and 2.42 percent more likely to get lung cancer. Mask on, then.

HEADS UP

Shooting Hong Kong's Vertical Cityscape

words by Dominic Ngai,
photos by Romain Jacquet-Lagrece



Hong Kong summers are long, hot and sticky, and frequently feature thunderstorms, showers and typhoons.

Exacerbating the heat are its buildings, shooting off into the sky. When strolling down the streets of Central, Wan Chai or Tsim Sha Tsui on a midsummer day, these skyscrapers can be your worst enemies, as they trap the heat and suffocate those who are squeezing through its narrow, crowded streets.

For Romain Jacquet-Lagrez, however, Hong Kong's notorious 'walled buildings' are a source of artistic inspiration. A former web designer from France, Jacquet-Lagrez met his Hong Kong-born wife and moved to her hometown in 2009. Shortly afterwards, he purchased his first camera, and photography has been his full-time profession ever since.

Jacquet-Lagrez created 'Vertical Horizon,' a photo series that vividly captures Hong Kong's uniquely vertical visual character. "In some areas of Hong Kong, like Quarry Bay, you have a high density of buildings from different eras and with different architectural styles, such as 60-year-old walk-ups and skyscrapers with glass and metallic exteriors, standing next to one another," he says. "This mixture, and the sheer density of it all, makes the city very unique."

West Kowloon, an area where some of Hong Kong's oldest buildings remain as yet untouched by the city's aggressive urban redevelopment plans, has been Jacquet-Lagrez's home for the past eight years. The first photo of 'Vertical Horizon' was taken here in the district of Sham Shui Po, where the photographer first noticed the interesting ways that a worm's-eye view could illustrate the contrast between new and old architectural styles. For the next five years, he scoured the city for interesting spots to take these 'look up' shots, and has accumulated a total of 110 photos with the same angle.



“

The golden squares of each floor and the emptiness of the shot make it look like some sort of futuristic tunnel. It takes a moment for people to realize it's a building where thousands of people live

”

"When I was shooting 'Vertical Horizon,' I learned a lot about the way Hong Kong was developed," he says. "You can understand the history of a district based on its architecture and the people who live there."

Besides capturing the lines and contours of skyscrapers in Central, Jacquet-Lagrez notes that the shots taken in colorful, modern public housing projects in the suburbs highlight a side of the city that people don't often get to see. He says 'Vertical Horizon #16,' for instance, was "taken in the ground floor atrium of [one such building]. The golden squares of each floor and the emptiness of the shot make it look almost like some sort of abstract and futuristic tunnel. It takes a moment for people to realize it's a building where thousands of people live."

Though it was Hong Kong's verticality that inspired 'Vertical Horizon,' Jacquet-Lagrez believes that the series could be replicated in other cities with a similar environment, like Chongqing. "The topography of Chongqing is quite similar to Hong Kong; there are lots of hills surrounding the city center, where a high concentration of modern high-rises are located," he tells us.

In a recent exhibition titled 'Hong Kong Upside Down,' worm's-eye view shots from 'Vertical Horizon' were juxtaposed against Hong Kong photographer Tugo Cheng's bird's-eye ones, taken with drones.

Jacquet-Lagrez has continued to explore architecture in his other photo series, such as "The Blue Moment" and "Wild Concrete." "Buildings are definitely my favorite things to shoot," he says. "What I like to show with these photos is the contrast between the city and nature, like bodies of water and forests. There's plenty of that in Hong Kong."



See more of Romain Jacquet-Lagrez's work at www.romainjl.com



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Kengdie/ Kēngdiē / 坑爹 *adj. deceptive, swindling, being a scam or a con*

A When I was booking the hotel, it said "this price does not include lunch or dinner." So I assumed that it included breakfast.

Did it? **B**

A Nope. It was so *kengdie*.

Indeed. **B**

The world is full of con artists. In China, beautifully executed scams often inspire more respect and awe than condemnation – after all, a scam is a battle of wits. *Kengdie* is what you say when you realize you have just lost the battle.

Keng means 'to scam' and *die* means 'father.' Literally meaning "you have just conned your father," *kengdie* gives you one last chance to belittle whoever just conned you by calling him your son. It's a kind of after-the-fact trash talking, a way to blow off some steam, a now-futile attempt to regain some points.

Kengdie becomes handy when you spend thousands of yuan on a pair of adidas Yeezy sneakers only to realize they are fake; when the pet hamsters you order online turn out to be rats; when the iPhone you buy turns out to be a brick; when the language-exchange partner you meet on Tinder shows up with bodyguards and demands payment... Let's just say that *kengdie* is a very useful word.

An alternative interpretation of *kengdie* is that the scam is so clever it would have fooled your father, let alone you. It conveys a kind of respect for how clever the scam is – so clever that the scammers almost deserve the loot.

Kengdie can also be used to accuse someone of trying to scam you. "Your offer is too *kengdie*," means you are not happy with the offer on the table. "This price is too *kengdie*," is useful when bargaining at the silk market. Sometimes calling *kengdie* preemptively is the best way to not say *kengdie* later.

Scams abound in China – and everywhere, frankly – from the cradle to the grave. From the day you are born, you face *kengdie* baby formula, *kengdie* nannies and *kengdie* toys. When you grow up, you face *kengdie* schools, apartments, cars and bosses. In the end you still have to deal with *kengdie* hospitals, retirement schemes, pension plans and graveyard plots. *Kengdie* is a reality of life. The sooner you get used to it, the better you will fare. Good luck now.

Mia Li



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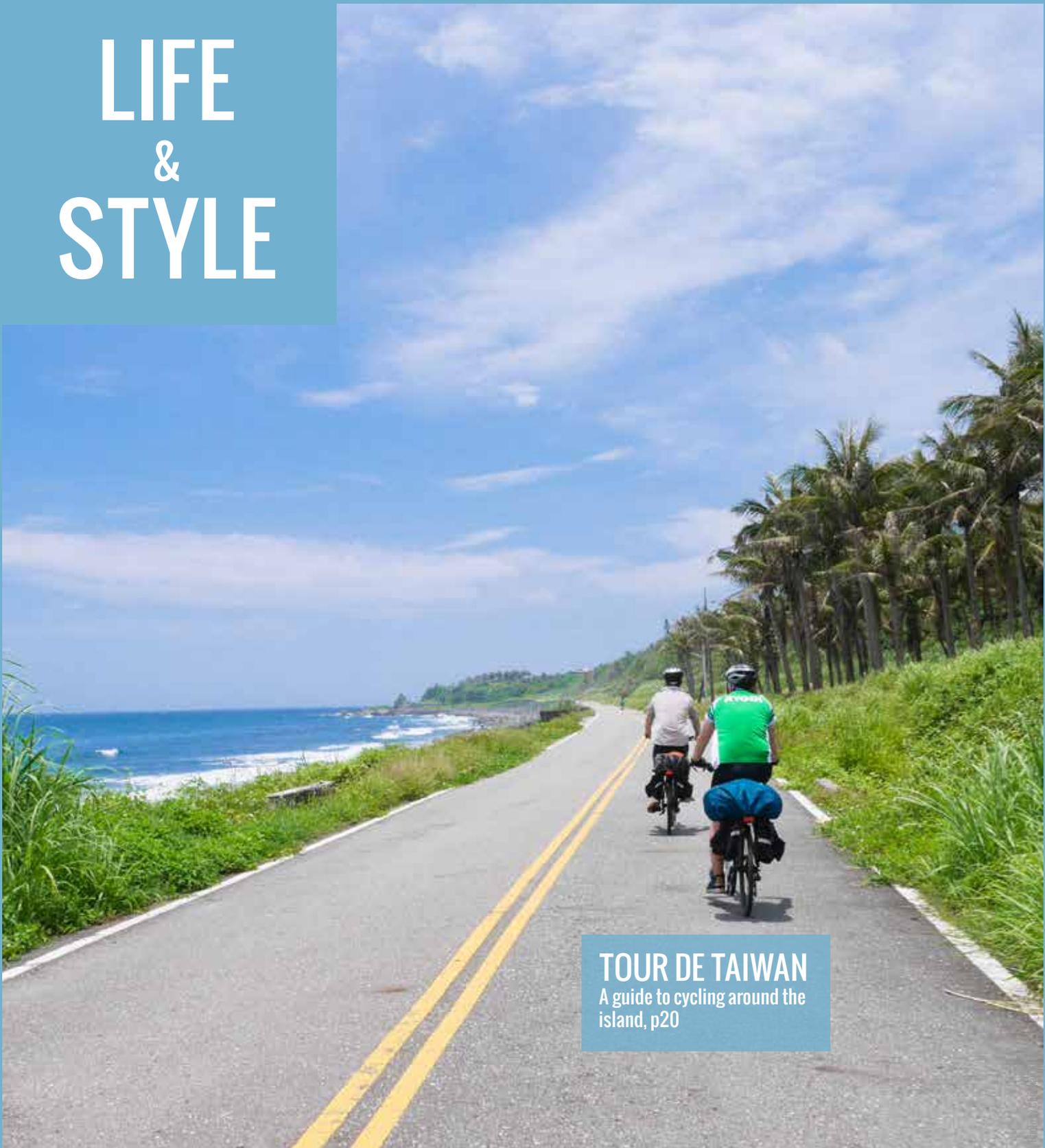


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LIFE & STYLE



TOUR DE TAIWAN

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CAMDEN HAUGE & OLIVIA MOK

Founders of Social Supply

edited by Dominic Ngai



From exclusive private dinners to a launch party for Balmain, Social Supply is known for throwing some of the most exciting events in Shanghai – and now they’re headed to Beijing, Founders Camden Hauge and Olivia Mok share with us how they’re able to juggle multiple roles in their careers and the most memorable events they’ve organized.

Tell us about your background.

CH: I arrived in Shanghai from London with an advertising company, originally only for a few months. But I was so impressed with the energy and entrepreneurialism of the people here that I was inspired to start a passion project of my own – Shanghai Supperclub. Eventually, when I opened my restaurant EGG, I had to find someone who could help run Supperclub, and met Olivia through a mutual friend. I knew that she would be the right person to run the project straight away.

OM: I was born in Hong Kong, raised in Vancouver, and have been living in Shanghai since 2012. No other city has really excited me the same way Shanghai has. At the time, I was managing American Apparel for Greater China, but after two great years with the brand, I realized I wasn’t happy with the state the fashion industry was in, and I wanted to find something new.

Tell us what Social Supply is.

CH: We refer to Social Supply as “the everything events agency.” We do everything from small private parties to larger media launch-

es or store openings for clients, in addition to our own events – our monthly Shanghai Supperclub, our new immersive film-screening event Cocktail Cinema, and our new live music sessions Liveroom.

What do you like most about organizing events?

CH: Every project is so different! It’s amazing how much you learn while solving each new brief. Plus the excess of wine isn’t bad...

OM: I love meeting new people, so these events bring a lot of opportunities for that. I also enjoy the satisfying feeling of completing an event and doing it right.

What roles do you each play when organizing events?

CH: It depends on the event – one of us will usually take the lead on a job, and the other will play support along with the team. But generally, Olivia is much more sociable and composed and so she plays front of house. I’m usually running around like a headless chicken trying to get the food out on time.

What’s the most memorable event you’ve done?

CH: The first Supperclub anniversary was the most insane party. The concept was to celebrate the first 12 months with 12 simultaneous dinner parties cooked by 12 of Shanghai’s best chefs in the same room. Sounded super cool in my head but came with infinite logis-

tical issues, the first of which being that we didn’t secure a venue until three days before – an empty warehouse space where we had to sweep about 10cm of dust off the floor to make it workable. The chefs were amazing about the insane conditions – they served amazing food and everyone had far too much to drink.

OM: There are so many memorable ones, like the first FEAST because it was the largest collaborative experience with a full team and it was very rewarding. I also won’t be able to forget our beautiful Supperclub third anniversary at the Yuz Museum.

You both juggle multiple roles on a daily basis. How do you do it all?

CH: Clones... No, finding the right people to surround yourself with. Working with an amazing team is key, which we have been lucky enough to do with Social Supply as I have been with EGG.

OM: 100 percent what Cam said.

www.socialsupplyshanghai.com, www.shsupperclub.com; Beijing Cinema Cocktail: Fri Sat 8 (see p67 for details); Beijing Supperclub: Sat Sep 9, 7.30pm; secret location; RMB500 (multi-course dinner, including alcohol; email eat@shsupperclub.com to RSVP)

STYLE RADAR

UNDER THE LENS



HIGHER BROTHERS TEAM UP WITH ADIDAS ORIGINALS

After finding success in China and the West with hits 'WeChat' and 'Made in China,' Chengdu-based rap group Higher Brothers teamed up with adidas Originals on the music video for their new single, 'Nomadic.' Filmed in one of Shanghai's old lanes, the foursome and their entourage are seen sporting the latest adidas Originals NMD sneakers.

See the 'Nomadic' music video on QQ, iQiyi or on the adidas official website.

www.adidas.com.cn/campaign/originals_nmd

COVET

Kate Wood's New Sunnies

While you sweated the summer away, the folks at Kate Wood were busy redesigning their wooden sunglasses. Based on customer feedback, they've experimented with new materials and different classic and funky shapes to come up with 50 new styles, all of which feature bigger, sturdier frames (fortified with multiple layers of wood) and higher quality lenses. Prices start from RMB688, available on their Taobao shop.

www.katewood.com.cn



OVERHEARD

"I can't afford this but I love you!"

Declares a fan of Luhan on Weibo after Louis Vuitton announced they'd tapped the 27-year-old Beijing-born megastar to be the face of their latest smartwatch collection. Starting from RMB17,700 apiece, the watches come in three different styles, with dozens of straps as well as multiple downloadable digital faces for users to mix and match. The fan-girl added, "I'll work hard and save up for this!"

www.louisvuitton.cn





COVET

Clear as Mud

MUD (My Ultimate Detox) is an Australian brand that specializes in natural health and beauty products, like body soaks and masks, with the key ingredient being bentonite clay (aged volcanic ash). Indigenous communities in Central Africa, the Andes and Australia, supposedly used the so-called “healing clay” to help remove toxins, soothe skin problems and alleviate indigestion. Try it out for yourself via Beijing-based lifestyle platform TruLiving, whose online store stocks the ‘Original MUD Detox Bath & Body Mask’ and ‘Edible MUD’ (food grade clay that can be mixed with water or added to smoothies). Yum.

www.trulivingmarketplace.com
WeChat ID: TruLiving

SCENE&HEARD



FIT4LIFE

Disclaimer: the full name of women-only gym fit4life is ‘fit4life girl power studio.’ If you’re still reading, hear us out. The Jianwai SOHO gym offers 50-minute workouts (with a focus on circuit training, core, toning, weights and dance) taught by friendly teachers in a pleasantly designed space. fit4life differentiates itself from basically every other gym by being unabashedly feminine. Classes are named ‘Dance Like Beyonce’ and ‘Beach Body Sculpture’. The decor includes a big inflatable pink flamingo and beach deck chair. It’s fabulous, though admittedly may not appeal to all. In that case, we suggest Muscle Dog in Dongdaqiao (the antithesis of fit4life).

Sun-Fri, 12-9pm; Rm 2505, Bldg 17, West Jianwai SOHO, Chaoyang 朝阳区建外SOHO西区17号楼2505 (5900 3308)



SISYPHE

Raffles’ fancy new bookstore Sisyphé is a haven for book nerds with shelves upon shelves of titles that span genres. But don’t expect many English-language books – we only spotted one row that appeared to be mostly classics. (Think Kafka, Jane Austen, Emily Brontë and Daniel Defoe.) While Sisyphé’s book selection may lack foreigner-friendly titles, the store has a gift selection that’s likely to appeal to all. A comfy-looking cafe makes up the rest of the space. Sisyphé first opened in Guizhou in 1993 and is now one of the biggest private bookstore chains in China. Other Beijing Sisyphé locations include Solana and Glory Mall in Chongwenmen.

Daily, 10am-10pm; 2/F, Raffles City, 1 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街1号2层

FITNESS OPTIONAL



AN IDLER'S GUIDE
TO CYCLING IN TAIWAN

by Oscar Holland, photos by Ben White-Overton

C

ycling around Taiwan is like the hajj for Asia's sporty crowd – a pilgrimage for fitness freaks.

You know who I'm talking about: Those people who spend their weekends in outer Beijing's mountains wearing lycra. Who do the Grasslands Marathon for fun. Who were once obsessed with HeyRunning (is that still a thing?).

That's probably not you. But – and I'm going to blow your mind here – you don't need to be fit to go on a cycling holiday in Taiwan. You don't even need to be good at cycling.

Until this trip, I hadn't stepped foot inside a branch of Decathlon. My physical preparation amounted to joining Mobike and occasionally riding to Sanlitun.

Honestly, you can do this. And it's completely worth it.

Step one: Immediately abandon plans of going all the way around the island. It may sound romantic, but the west coast is urban and industrial. Cut straight to the best spots with a two-hour train from Taipei to Hualien, a city in east Taiwan.

Step two: Buy some gear. You might not want to be a lycra-clad dickhead, but a pair of those padded shorts will, literally, save your ass. A water bottle and some gloves will also come in handy.

Step three: Hire a bike. (This should really be step one – book in advance.) The world's largest bike manufacturer, Giant, is Taiwanese, and thus the company has a comprehensive rental network across the island. Bikes can be returned to any of Giant's stores, meaning you don't really need a route. Or even a destination. Just see how it goes. (See details p23.)

So, with a noticeable beer-paunch and a level of cardiovascular performance described by Chinese visa authorities as showing "no irregularities," I embark on a 300-kilometer cycling odyssey (alongside three friends in somewhat better condition than I am).

For the most part, our journey follows Highway 11, a road blessed with spectacular ocean views and bike lanes so wide that other road users are relegated to second-class citizens. They could be forgiven for resenting us, but they're too busy giving us an unnecessarily wide berth and being considerate. This is truly a cycling paradise.

The highway winds down the coast, hugging a ridge of dense, tropical mountains. But don't let this placid description lull you into a false sense of security. For Day One is a brutal affair.

The stretch of road running south from Hualien is characterized by more than 30 kilometers of merciless ascent. This climb is so steep and unrelenting that, at times, I'm forced to dismount and walk. Like some cruel optical illusion, each blind corner reveals a new ►

incline or, worse still, a long uphill tunnel packed with speeding trucks.

Warning: Here is where the doubt is going to set in. Suddenly you'll remember that Taiwan is hot, humid and home to spiders bigger than your face. You'll experience unsustainable amounts of leg-burn. And, by falling so spectacularly at your journey's first hurdle, you'll dismiss the whole endeavor as foolhardy.

Persist you must. In the short-term, your toil will be rewarded with ten minutes of the most glorious, dizzying downhill imaginable – the Tour de Taiwan of your dreams. In the medium-term, you'll be rewarded with, well, the rest of Highway 11.

Because from here on in, the road is smooth, flat and dotted with quaint townships. The landscape is remote enough to feel wild, yet developed enough to offer guesthouses (or 7-Elevens loaded with cold Pocari Sweat) whenever needed.

Infrastructure – an incredibly boring yet completely valid reason for choosing your holiday destination.

For real though, it means that you can play everything by ear. So with time on our side, we end our third day with a two-day pit stop in Dulan (a 3:2 ratio of cycling days to resting day works pretty well).

Surfer towns are a rarity in East Asia, making Dulan a welcome oddity. Expect some of those irritating backpacker-town vibes, sure. But the town also serves what you will, by now, crave: craft beer, burgers and an Indian restaurant in the middle of the forest. And when you're on a cycling holiday, you can genuinely eat whatever you want – you'll still finish the trip lighter than you began.

Refreshed and mildly hungover, we begin our second leg with the short trip to Taitung. Here, you'll face two options (or three, if you count quitting): Continue



When to go

Spring and fall are the best times of year to visit Taiwan (with fall slightly drier). The winter can be surprisingly chilly, though cycling should keep you warm. Summer months are hot, humid and prone to typhoons.

Getting there

There are four or five flights between Beijing and Taipei each day. Hualien is approximately two hours from Taipei by train. Tickets can be purchased on the day of travel at Taipei Main Station.

Hiring equipment

Although Giant operates an island-wide bike rental service, there is no central database of hire stores. Thankfully some helpful bloggers have compiled contact lists (try kitchen.j321.com). Helmets, gloves and other essentials can be borrowed or bought in-store. Bikes must be booked in advance (ideally a week or more before your arrival), and employees at some of the stores speak decent English.

Where to stay

Most townships will have at least a couple of passable hotels or guesthouses (bookable through the usual online channels). Advance booking is not necessary outside peak seasons, though it's always advisable to book ahead if headed to the popular backpacker town of Dulan.

down to Taiwan's remote southern tip or loop back north through the Huatung Valley.

Having opted for the latter, my advice on this dilemma is one-sided. But let it be said that although the coastal roads boast sparkling sea, gorges and lush tropics, the Huatung Valley offers something more dramatic. And while Highway 11's setup had been relatively straightforward (sea on one side, mountains on the other), the inland route illustrates the sheer variety of Taiwan's geography.

We forge our way through flat fields, winding mountain roads and a network of dark, raging rivers worthy of Mordor. With them, 70-kilometer days dissolve into manageable chunks of sweating, punctuated by roadside noodle stops and Instagram photo ops.

It's certainly a workout, but the scenic distractions are so captivating that you'd hardly notice. And if ever short of motivation, the valley's inhabitants prove to be a reliable source of encouragement. They holler gleefully from roadside stalls and the windows of passing cars, cheering us on and willing us to succeed.

On the subject of friendly locals, it may also come as a relief to know that even the most rudimentary displays of Chinese language ability are met with nods of appreciation, if not comprehension.

In the name of full disclosure, I should conclude by telling you that we bailed on our journey's final stretch. Taipei's bright lights beckoned. Upon arriving in Yuli Township, we booked ourselves (and our bikes) onto a train back to Hualien.

And that's surely the point here. Taiwan is a perfect destination for fitness freaks. But it's also accommodating to chancers, idlers and those of us uncertain of how far we're willing – or even able – to push ourselves. ■

that's 2017 HOSPITALITY AWARDS

Celebrating the Best of China's Hotel Industry

NEW HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Sheraton Shanghai Chongming Hotel
The St. Regis Shanghai Jingan
W Shanghai — The Bund
Hyatt Regency Shanghai Global Harbor
naked Castle

THE MOST HIGHLY ANTICIPATED HOTEL OPENING OF THE YEAR

Amanyangyun
Bellagio Shanghai
Hard Rock Hotel Shenzhen
PRIMUS Hotel Shanghai Hongqiao
Cordis Shanghai, Hongqiao
Capella Shanghai, Jian Ye Li
The Shanghai EDITION
Hyatt Place & Hyatt House Shanghai Hongqiao CBD

LUXURY HOTEL OF THE YEAR

The Langham Shanghai, Xintiandi
Conrad Beijing
The St. Regis Shenzhen
Mandarin Oriental Pudong, Shanghai
Wanda Reign on the Bund
W Guangzhou

MICE HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Hilton Shenzhen Shekou Nanhai
Sofitel Shanghai Hongqiao
LN Garden Hotel, Guangzhou
InterContinental Shanghai NECC
InterContinental Shanghai Expo
Hyatt Regency Shanghai, Wujiachang

BUSINESS HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Crowne Plaza Beijing Chaoyang U-Town
EAST, Beijing
Kerry Hotel, Beijing
Jing An Shangri-la, West Shanghai
JW Marriott Hotel Shanghai at
Tomorrow Square
JW Marriott Hotel Shanghai Changfeng Park
Grand Kempinski Hotel Shanghai

FAMILY-FRIENDLY HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Hyatt Regency Chongming
Banyan Tree Lijiang
Sheraton Sanya Haitang Bay Resort
Chimelong Hengqin Bay Hotel, Zhuhai
InterContinental Sanya Resort
Crowne Plaza Shanghai Harbour City

ART HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Andaz Xintiandi, Shanghai
Nuo Hotel Beijing
Park Hyatt Hangzhou
Hotel Indigo Shanghai on the Bund
W Beijing Chang'an

BOUTIQUE HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Chapel Hangzhou
Banyan Tree Ringha
LN Hotel Five, Guangzhou
The Temple House
Bamboo Retreat

OUTSTANDING HOTEL DESIGN

Jumeriah Himalayas Hotel Shanghai
Le Méridien Zhengzhou
The Shanhaitian Resort Sanya, Autograph
Collection
Twelve at Hengshan, A Luxury Collection Hotel,
Shanghai
Le Méridien Shanghai Minhang

LANDMARK HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Grand Hyatt Shanghai
Hyatt on the Bund
The Westin Bund Center Shanghai
Kempinski Hotel Beijing Lufthansa Center

THE MOST INFLUENTIAL HOTEL

Grand Hyatt Guangzhou
The Ritz-Carlton Shanghai, Pudong
New World Beijing Hotel
Pudong Shangri-La, East Shanghai
Park Hyatt Shanghai

GETAWAY HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Hilton Ningbo Dongqian Lake Resort
naked Stables
Guangzhou Chimelong Hotel
The Westin Zhujiqian Resort, Zhoushan
Sheraton Huzhou Hot Spring Resort

URBAN RESORT HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Sofitel Shanghai Sheshan Oriental
Banyan Tree Shanghai on the Bund
The Yuluxe Sheshan, A Tribute Portfolio Hotel,
Shanghai
The Puli Hotel and Spa
Okura Garden Hotel Shanghai

HISTORIC HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Fairmont Peace Hotel
Waldorf Astoria Shanghai on the Bund
InterContinental Shanghai Ruijin
Xijiao State Guest Hotel
Broadway Mansions Hotel

OUTSTANDING CITY VIEW

Hotel Indigo Shanghai on the Bund
Hyatt on the Bund
Le Royal Méridien Shanghai
Hyatt Regency Hangzhou
Nicolò Chengdu

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

THE ONE Executive Suites Shanghai managed by
Kempinski
JW Marriott Beijing Central
Shanghai Marriott Hotel Pudong East
Grand Millennium Shanghai Hongqiao
Hilton Shanghai Hongqiao

OUTSTANDING HOTEL SPA

- Waldorf Astoria Spa, Waldorf Astoria Shanghai on the Bund
- The Peninsula Spa, The Peninsula Shanghai
- CHI Spa, Jing An Shangri-la, West Shanghai
- Banyan Tree Spa, Banyan Tree Shanghai on the Bund
- YHI SPA, Melia Shanghai Hongqiao

OUTSTANDING HOTEL SWIMMING POOL

- Four Seasons Hotel Pudong, Shanghai
- JW Marriott Hotel Shanghai at Tomorrow Square
- W Shanghai — The Bund
- InterContinental Shanghai PuXi
- New World Shanghai Hotel

MOST INFLUENTIAL HOTEL COMPANY

- OCT International Hotel Management Co., Ltd.

NEW SERVICED APARTMENT OF THE YEAR

- PRIMUS Residence Shanghai Hongqiao

THE MOST HIGHLY ANTICIPATED SERVICED APARTMENT OPENING OF THE YEAR

- Ascott Raffles City Shenzhen

FAMILY-FRIENDLY SERVICED APARTMENT OF THE YEAR

- Somerset XuHui
- Fraser Place Tianjin

LUXURY SERVICED APARTMENT OF THE YEAR

- Oakwood Residence Damei Beijing
- GTC Residence Beijing
- Mandarin Oriental Pudong, Shanghai, Executive Apartments
- THE ONE Executive Suites managed by Kempinski
- Fraser Suites Top Glory
- Futian Shangri-La, Shenzhen

ECO-TOURISM DESTINATION OF THE YEAR

- Discovery Adventures Moganshan Park



CITY SCENES

The new James Bond film casts the least intimidating spies the franchise has featured to date, at the 2017 Spartan Kids Race Experience at Kerry Sports.



Man mistakes stacks of plaid beer crates for lounge chair with beach towel, at Jing-A Taproom.



Men sport sailor hats that were definitely not bought on Taobao two days earlier at Xian, EAST Beijing.



Distinguished hospitality professional welcomes woefully underdressed attendee to her etiquette class at The St. Regis Tianjin.



How many bartenders does it take to change a lightbulb? This many, if your chandelier is as fancy as Charlie Chaplin Bar's.

Donhot
嗒哈



**DON'T
BREAK
MY HOT**



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ARTS

GREAT SCOT

Legendary Scottish DJs Optimo in their own words, p32



Found in Translation
p30



New Music
p34



Chui Wan
p35



MARK NORMAND

The American Comedian Thinks Scientists are Great Comedians

by Allison Bew

American comedian Mark Normand's brand of self-deprecating humor has led him to open for the likes of Louis C.K. and Amy Schumer. Before his China debut, we chat with the comic about how he got his start, and what it is like for an introvert to be a comedian.

How did your upbringing in New Orleans shape you as a comedian?

I don't know if NOLA shaped me at all, I think it was more my parents. My mom taught me that nothing is really that serious, and not to follow the pack.

My dad was just a funny guy, and funny is likable. My folks were both very busy, so unless what you said was interesting or funny, no one noticed you. And that stuck with me. If NOLA did anything, it taught me about fun. From Jay Fest, Mardi Gras to Bourbon Street, I learned that fun is important.

How do you think of material for your jokes?

George Carlin said that comedy comes from looking around and saying, "There's something wrong here." It's that and the twinkle feeling when an idea hits you. Something

hits you then you write it out and tweak it on stage. Sometimes it works, but usually it doesn't. And you repeat that over and over again.

You've joked about being an introvert. How does this affect your performance on stage in front of a live audience, or when you are filming for television?

Being an introvert sucks. I get off stage and I'm a wreck again. People always wonder, "Hey, if you're an introvert, then how can you perform in front of crowds?" But stand-up is perfect for an introvert. I get to prepare what I say to you, it's all worked out, you listen intently and if you talk, you get thrown out. Then I get paid! What a perfect gig.

What was it like opening for big-name comedians like Louis C.K. and Amy Schumer?

Opening is an amazing experience. I got to watch Amy go from comedy club comic to selling out Madison Square Garden.

C.K. is amazing too because I grew up enjoying his stuff. I think he's one of the best comics in the world, so just hanging out with him was wild. One great thing about comedy

is it's not that big. It's unlikely for young musicians to get a chance to hang with Paul McCartney, but I got to sit at a table with Dave Chappelle and Bill Burr.

Who are your comedic role models?

My comedic role models are guys like Groucho Marx, George Carlin, Chris Rock, Bill Murray and Colin Quinn. But as I get more into comedy I'm starting to dig more intellectual types.

I love watching Neil deGrasse Tyson, because he's just telling you the truth and that's the essence and backbone of good comedy. If you make a joke about how all Asian men are blonde, it won't get a laugh because it's not true. So these scientists are actually kind of like comics, but without the dick jokes.

Sun Sep 17, 8pm; RMB150 (advance), RMB180 (door); The Bookworm (see Listings for details)

COLLAGE

COMING SOON



★ SEPTEMBER 1 ★

Dunkirk

Christopher Nolan (*Memento*, *The Dark Knight Trilogy*, *Inception*) served as writer, director and co-producer of *Dunkirk*, a sprawling, ambitious film that critics are calling one of the best war movies of all time. A dramatization of the WWII Battle of Dunkirk, in which 330,000 Allied troops were evacuated after being trapped on a beach as Germany invaded France, the nonlinear story switches perspectives between soldiers on land, in the water and in planes above the beach. The ensemble cast features several young and unknown actors alongside Cillian Murphy (*28 Days Later*, *Inception*), Tom Hardy (*Mad Max: Fury Road*) and, most randomly, the acting debut of Harry Styles of One Direction.



★ SEPTEMBER 8 ★

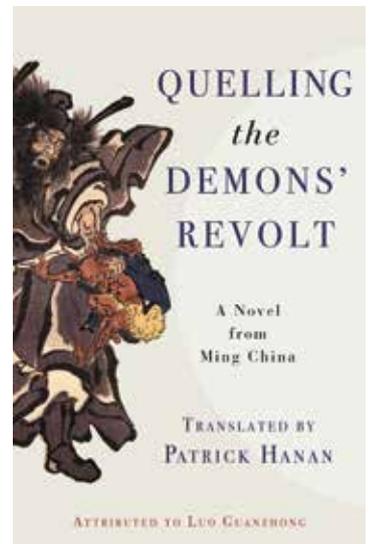
Spider-Man: Homecoming

Though the world definitely didn't need another Spider-Man franchise, the third time might have been the charm for Peter Parker on the big screen. *Spider-Man: Homecoming* depicts a slice of Spider-Man's early high school days, which play a big role in the comics but haven't really been explored in the films, until now. Tom Holland is lovable and charismatic as 15-year-old Peter Parker, starring alongside Michael Keaton, Robert Downey Jr., Marisa Tomei, Zendaya and Donald Glover. Critics have praised the film for its light, witty tone, and the beautiful shots of New York City throughout the movie only add to its appeal.

CANVASSED

Ming Dynasty Novels Get a Modern Face-Lift

Out this month from Asian Classics are two major works of fiction that date back to the Ming dynasty (1368–1644). *Quelling the Demon's Revolt* is a work of historical fiction by Luo Guanzhong set several hundred years before his time, during Wang Ze's uprising against the Song dynasty in 1047. Luo weaves caustic humor into a narrative of a young woman with magical powers who gets caught up in the rebellion. *The Book of Swindles*, meanwhile, is a late-Ming story collection that has been praised by Peter Hessler and Ian Johnson for its bawdy humor and social critique. It chronicles the scheming conmen, sorcerers, alchemists and forgers that took advantage of the dynasty's flourishing economy.



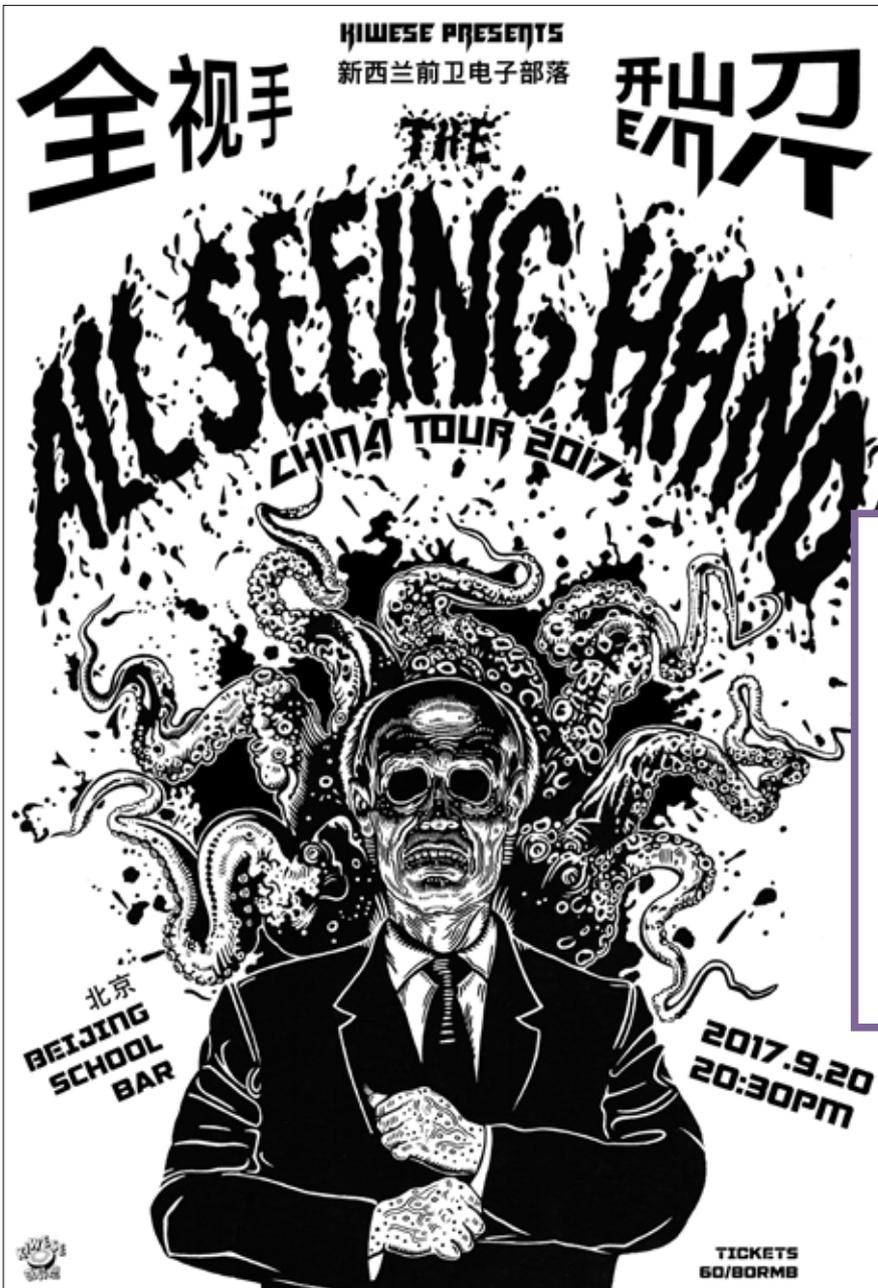
Hao

Netflix has green-lit its first Chinese-language original series. Directed by up-and-coming filmmaker Sam Quah, *Bardo* will tell the story of Ah Quan, an inmate who escapes from prison after learning his son is in danger. In April 2017, Netflix signed a licensing deal with domestic streaming site iQiyi to share its hit shows *Stranger Things* and *Black Mirror*, so perhaps this foray into original Chinese language content seems to be the next logical step.

Bu Hao

The problem of fans 'locking' film screenings, or buying the minimum number of tickets to any given showtime to ensure that the screening doesn't get canceled, has been plaguing movie theaters across China since 2015. Last month, fans of rising star Yang Yang locked screenings of *Once Upon A Time*, causing it to remain in theaters despite lackluster reviews. Cinema owners are especially irked by the trend because it forces them to offer fewer screenings of more successful films, like *Wolf Warrior II*.





GIG POSTER OF THE MONTH

The All Seeing Hand, a three-piece band from Wellington, New Zealand, hits up School Bar as part of its first China tour. A combination of throat singing (learnt in Mongolia by band member Jonny Marks), frenetic drumming and turntabling, TASH are “seven levels of f**** up weirdness,” according to *Sonic Masala*. Get ready for an intense, mind-altering set. Poster art by Hannah Salmon from punk zine *Daily Secretion*.

Wed Sep 20, 8.30pm; RMB60 (advance), RMB80 (door); School Bar (see Listings for details)

Our favorite tracks from artists playing in Beijing this month. For full nightlife and gig listings, visit www.thatsmags.com

THE PLAYLIST

'BMT' (2017)
Mumdance

A magically disorienting track in all the right ways, 'BMT' opens up the definition of club music by playing around with disharmony and pauses.

'Whispers in the Deep' (2017)
DJ Okapi

Synth-fuelled 80s disco-funk, known as bubblegum, and the unique house-inspired kwaito grooves of South Africa's early 90s are brought back to life by the pioneering DJ.

'Lose My Way' (2012)
TOY

Triptastic tribal sounds quickly give way to shoegaze psychedelic rock - with layered guitar and dreamy Brit vocals making the track inherently listenable.

'Totalitarian Terror' (2017)
KREATOR

With insane drums, even for metal, 'Totalitarian Terror' is raw AF. In case you were wondering if you can use the word 'classic' to describe German thrash metal, KREATOR answers: yes.

'The Sound of Pampas' (2017)
Ric Piccolo

A trippy exploration of obscure genres such as nu-disco and rare grooves turns this not-so-typical club track into a certified banger.

'Embrace the World' (2017)
Penicillin

Anime-esque music packed with youthful exuberance, 'Embrace the World' shares a romantic view of the world with enthusiasm for rock and roll. A solid debut from the three-piece.

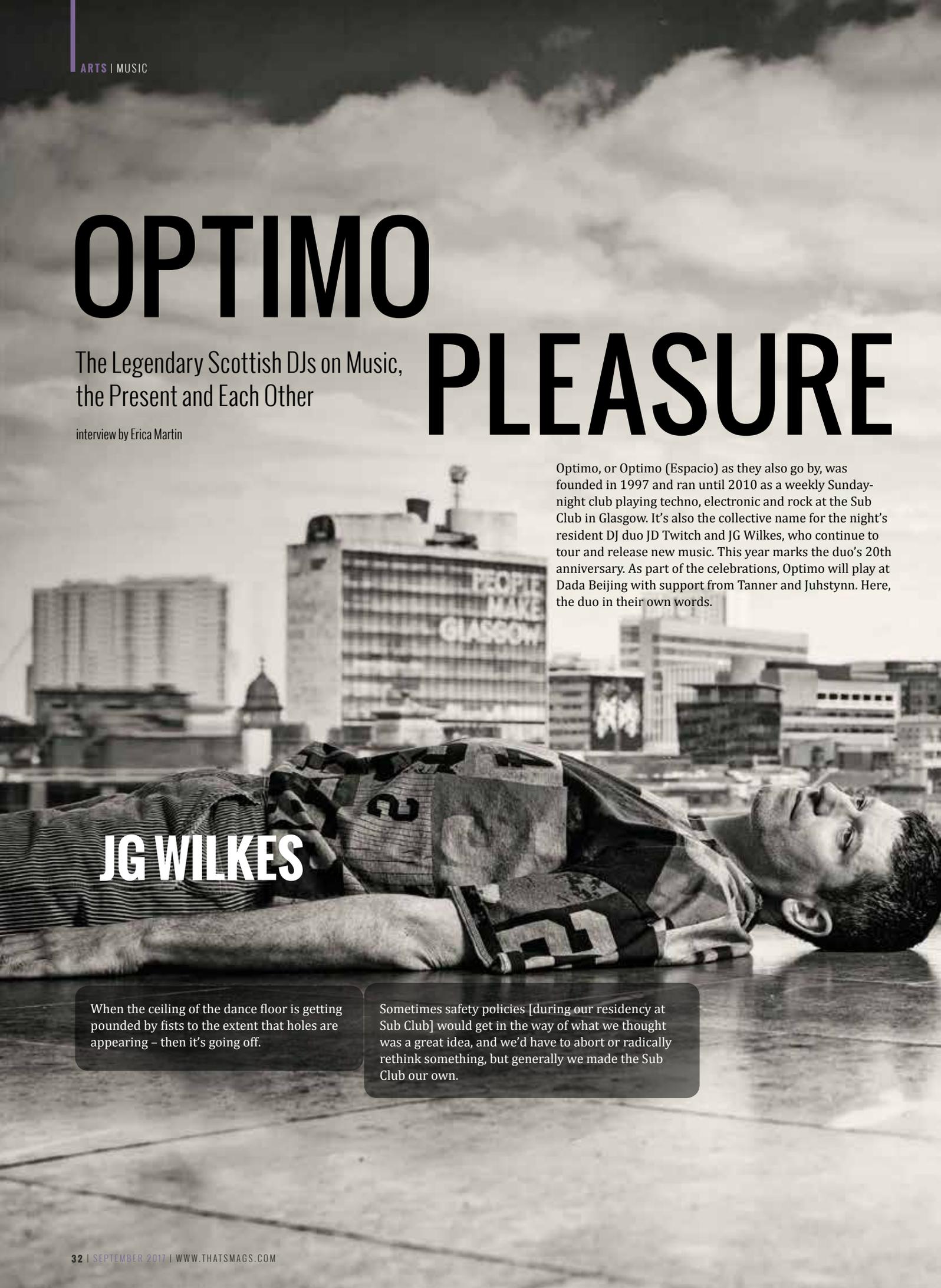
OPTIMO

The Legendary Scottish DJs on Music,
the Present and Each Other

interview by Erica Martin

PLEASURE

Optimo, or Optimo (Espacio) as they also go by, was founded in 1997 and ran until 2010 as a weekly Sunday-night club playing techno, electronic and rock at the Sub Club in Glasgow. It's also the collective name for the night's resident DJ duo JD Twitch and JG Wilkes, who continue to tour and release new music. This year marks the duo's 20th anniversary. As part of the celebrations, Optimo will play at Dada Beijing with support from Tanner and Juhstynn. Here, the duo in their own words.



JG WILKES

When the ceiling of the dance floor is getting pounded by fists to the extent that holes are appearing – then it's going off.

Sometimes safety policies [during our residency at Sub Club] would get in the way of what we thought was a great idea, and we'd have to abort or radically rethink something, but generally we made the Sub Club our own.



JD TWITCH

Having been around during the older scene I think it's easy to over romanticize how great it might have been when it wasn't necessarily so. There are things I preferred about then and there are things I prefer about now, but overall I'd take now over then.

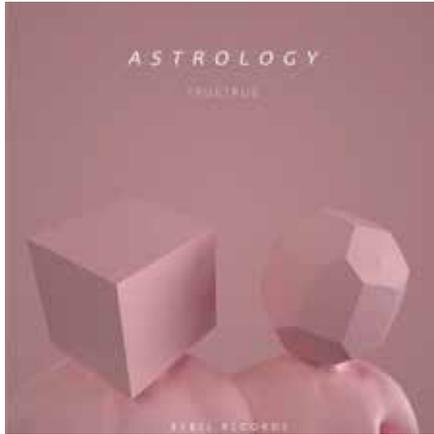
It might have been too much if we also made music and ran labels together. Perhaps we would have driven each other crazy by now, but generally I think we have found the perfect way of working together that works for us, and after 20 years feel we actually get on now better than ever.

There is a certain something that connects our music choices even if that isn't immediately apparent when listening.

FOR THE RECORD

Three New Homegrown Albums on Our Radar This Month

by Erica Martin



ASTROLOGY

by TRUETRUE

The latest release from Beijing's electro-future label Babel is an R&B-inflected synthpop album by a duo named Truetrue. The record begins with a harsh, creaking noise intro that makes you think the rest of the songs will be far more experimental and less melodic than they are – the second track, 'Meteor,' sets the record straight with its spare beats and beautifully spooky vocals. "Tell me another story before I fall asleep," they croon, going on to ask a lover to spin a yarn about how they met. Some of the tracks have an almost folk sensibility, others an ambient electronic atmosphere, but most are cut through with the brooding sensuality of R&B with a bit of jazz and twinkling synth. The lovely female vocals on every track, reminiscent of the best of 90s R&B, keep the album cohesive and catchy. *Astrology* achieves the ethos of Babel Records in general, in that it is both nostalgic and forward-thinking.

Listen at <https://babelrecords.bandcamp.com/album/astrology>

SI BU FUCHOU QU

by SCORPION PRISONER 69

This four-track EP from Scorpion Prisoner 69, a Shanghai-based trio comprised of longstanding musicians from other bands, includes Goushen and Nonplus of Color/Mirrors. The album, whose title can be translated to 'Four Revenge Songs,' manages to be an interesting study on revenge. The first two tracks, 'Sasori I' and 'Sasori II,' are an ode to Meiko Kaji, a Japanese actress and singer known for her roles as outlaws and assassins in a string of Japanese films of the early 1970s. The tracks are slower than many of Scorpion Prisoner 69's other songs, with an almost languid and romantic bent, revealing songwriter Lao Bi's affection for the actress and her ethos. 'Telling Lies and Making Friends I' is a more frenetic speed metal track about the relatable subject of hanging out with people you don't actually like, including the gleefully cynical chorus: "Right on time, come inside / start telling lies and making friends."

Listen at <http://i.xiami.com/nq69>



THE POEM OF THE NIGHT

by ANTI DOGS

Anti Dogs are the post-rock reincarnation of veteran Shanghainese punk band Top Floor Circus, who called it quits in February after 15 years together. The band are comprised of all the members of Top Floor Circus minus vocalist and frontman Lu Chen. The seven songs on their debut, *The Poem of the Night*, are understandably a far cry from the witty pop-punk Top Floor Circus was known for, with melancholic strains and delicate, brooding melodies. Subtle vocals are woven into a few of the tracks as more of an instrument than a purveyor of meaning. Most of the tracks clock in between seven and nine minutes, as post-rock songs are wont to do, and all are enjoyable and complex, revealing the musicians' decades of experience in songwriting.

Listen at <https://antidogs.bandcamp.com/album/the-poem-of-the-night>



“People always miss a bygone era, but we are also looking forward”

GOING LONGER

Leading Beijing Rockers Chui Wan Take Their Complex Third Album on a World Tour

by Zaruf Ezhan

Quintessential American composer Robert Ashley once famously said, “Popular music always ends after three minutes.” Chui Wan vocalist Yan points this out slyly before explaining the extended length of all the songs on the celebrated band’s third album, *The Landscape the Tropics Never Had*.

“In doing this album, we did not want to do a ‘concept album’ or an album with a unified ‘theme,’” he explains. “But these six songs have one thing in common: longer length. In the rehearsal room, we wanted to take a song’s first idea and develop it as much as possible.”

This tactic takes the songs to experimental, genre-bending places, especially on standout songs like, ‘Orphans of Asia,’ which is comprised of what Yan describes as ‘Southeast Asian melodies’ with added complexity contributed by a flute. Yan took the title from a song by Taiwanese singer Luo Dayou. “The phrase ‘the orphan of Asia’ is a really personal, subjective one for me,” he says. “I really like this image, and I think that in the current context, it will take on a new meaning.”

The band members cite a diverse range of influences on the album, from American electronic music and hip-hop like Flying Lotus, Solange’s *A Seat at the Table*, and Chinese pop music to African beats. The resulting music is unusual and difficult to classify, but undeniably an impressive step forward for the band.

There’s a reason that Chui Wan is one of the few bands that has developed a reputation outside of China and regularly tours abroad. Signed to Maybe

Mars Records, they’ve released two albums of bold, experimental psychedelic rock prior to *The Landscape the Tropics Never Had*, moving with each release toward a lush soundscape that makes the complex songs on *Landscape* seem like a natural next step. The album features surreal cover art of rusted teapots, artwork by experimental artist Li Gang.

The band has long been seen as an essential component of Beijing’s live music scene, so much so that they were recently featured on ABC Australia alongside Cui Jian as representative of China’s rock scene. Guitarist Liu Xinyu was especially moved because his dad listened to Cui Jian when his mom was pregnant with him, and that his parents believe this is why he wanted to be a musician.

Part of Chui Wan’s appeal in Beijing is that they came of age as a band during what many of the cities staunchest live music fans look back on as the “D-22” era, referring to the celebrated and now-shuttered livehouse. Chui Wan acknowledges that D-22 played an essential role in their identity and development as a band, but they don’t want themselves or Beijing’s music scene as a whole to grow stagnant by spending too much time looking backwards.

“People always miss a bygone era, and certainly this era has its unique charm,” Yan says. “But we are also looking forward.”

Fri Sep 1, 9.30pm; RMB80 (advance), RMB100 (door); Yugong Yishan (see Listings for details)



Tao Yi, 'Nature Boy'
Tong Gallery+Projects; through Sep 18



Benjamin Appel, 'Flowerbed in the Cellar'
PIFO Gallery; through Sep 17

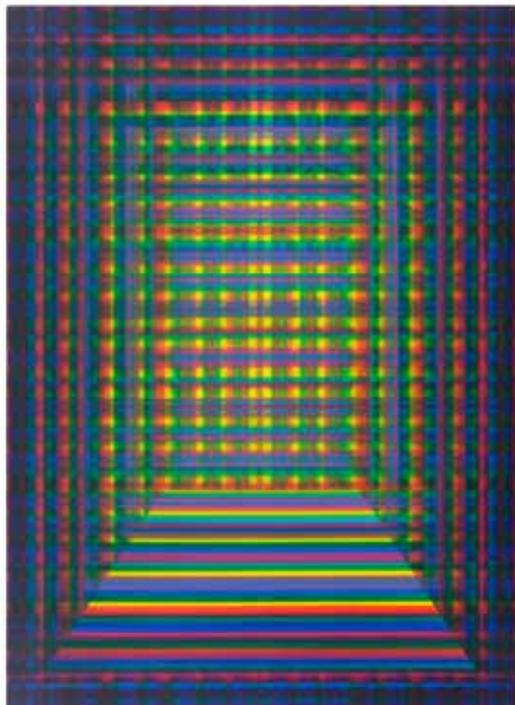
PICK OF SIX

ART

EXHIBITIONS

For gallery information visit www.thatsmags.com/beijing

Jiang Zhi, 'To Make with Changes Part II'
Hadrien de Montferand; through Sep 30



Cui Yunfeng, 'Murtceps'
One Way Art; through Sep 24



Kong Lingnan, 'Contours'
Gallery Yang; through Sep 24

Group Exhibition, 'Everlasting'
Tang Contemporary Art; through Sep 16





TURKISH AIRLINES: YOUR BEST BET FOR TRAVEL TO EUROPE AND BEYOND

Why choose Turkish Airlines? Well, many reasons. If you haven't yet flown the award-winning Star Alliance-member airline, you're in for a treat. With direct flights from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou to Istanbul, Turkish Airlines makes travel from China to Europe a breeze. (And a pleasant breeze at that.) Still not convinced? Here are some reasons to make your next stopover a Turkish one.



Award-Winning Service

Turkish Airlines has been flying across the world since 1933. Those 80+ years of experience have led it to become one of the most professional and respected airlines on the planet. This 4-star airline flies to more countries than any other airline in the world, including 300 destinations globally with 251 international and 49 domestic flights. Skytrax named Turkish Airlines the 'Best Airline in Europe' for six consecutive years (2011-2016) and 'Best Airline in Southern Europe' nine times in a row.

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Straddling Europe and Asia is the fascinating city of Istanbul. With a population of over 12 million people, it's one of the most bustling cities in Europe and the world. Ancient and trendy, traditional and forward-looking – this city is a study in contrasts. You can spend the day admiring the architecture of centuries-old mosques, then pass the nighttime in world-class restaurants, partying with locals until the early hours. When Turkish Airlines says 'Istanbul has something for everyone,' they mean it.



World-Class Transfers

Atatürk Airport, the hub for Turkish Airlines, is the third busiest airport in Europe after London and Paris. In 2016, over 61 million passengers flew through it, and with good reason – in less than three hours of travel from Istanbul, over 80 destinations in 38 countries are available. And the number of travelers frequenting Atatürk will only grow: After the completion of new facilities in its international terminal, the hub will be able to serve up to 80 million passengers annually. You're in good company.

In-Flight Comfort

Turkish Airlines offers some of the best business class seats in modern air travel. Flying business class will get you an extra 75 inches of space (perfect for napping) and massage buttons built into your seat. But even Turkish Airlines' economy seats offer unprecedented comfort, with up to 32 inches of space and easy-to-access power outlets that will keep all your devices charged.



Boredom-Free Travel

You are likely painfully aware of the following: flights from Beijing to Europe take a long time. Fortunately, Turkish Airlines is using technology to fight the boredom. Log on to high-speed Internet, watch live TV on the in-flight entertainment system and enjoy the airline's brand-new high-tech headsets. You'll be home before you know it.

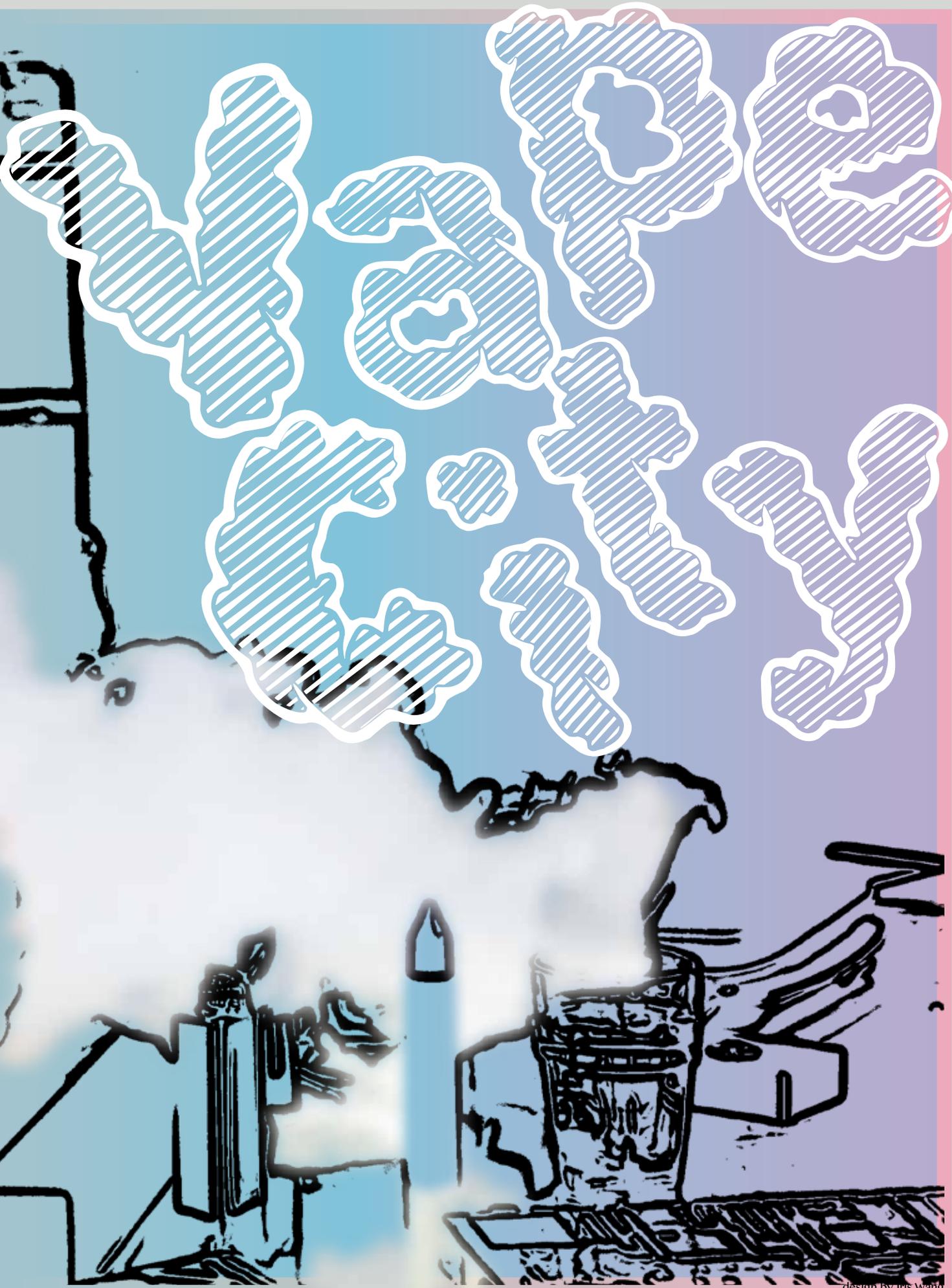
Great Food (Seriously)

Turkish Airlines has hired world-class chefs to develop their menus - and it shows. Take a vacation from your average bland plane fare and sample international cuisine at 40,000 feet. Whether you're dying to try something authentically Turkish, or just chow down on a good sandwich – Turkish Airlines has it. Plus, there are Chinese options on flights to and from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. Sample the best cuisine the skies have to offer.





China's Smokers Look to the Future





ELECTRIFIED

The Rise of Vaping in a Tobacco-Hooked China

by Jocelyn Richards

additional reporting by Sky Thomas Gidge, Dominic Ngai, Dominique Wong and Tristin Zhang

If Big Tobacco had a promised land, China would be it.

Home to 320 million smokers – almost the entire population of the US – the country feeds on cigarette sales, which generate more in tobacco tax revenue each year than it spends annually on the military. Domestic demand alone pushes the state-owned China National Tobacco Corporation to manufacture roughly 40 percent of the world's cigarettes every year, according to researchers at Stanford University. That makes China the greatest producer – and as the WHO points out, consumer – of tobacco in the world.

The tobacco epidemic is one of the biggest public health threats facing China this century. More than one million mainland smokers die prematurely from tobacco-related disease every year, and by 2030, experts predict it will be double that, according to joint study by researchers at Oxford University, the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and the Chinese Center for Disease Control.

But things may be changing.

In 2015, the government raised the tax on wholesale cigarettes from 5 to 11 percent. The same year, Beijing banned smoking in indoor public spaces. Now, China is finally seeing what it claimed was the impact of its new legislation: Euromonitor reports tobacco consumption has reportedly dropped for the first time in 20 years. Not by much

– about 2.4 percent – but enough to bring China Tobacco to declare, for the first time ever, that the volume of the world's largest tobacco market had gone into a downward spiral.

But this isn't just because of new policies. The past two years have also seen the rise of a new tribe of Chinese street-style-loving millennials.

Welcome to the world of vaping.

Fei Xiang doesn't remember hearing about China Tobacco's first fall – he was busy drafting a letter of resignation. It was October 2016, and the 27-year-old had resolved to quit his desk job and open a vape shop with a friend.

“We saw there was potential for this market. It was new, after all, and there could be opportunities,” he says, adding that the industry is in “a period of rapid development.”

Indeed, vaping's growth is simply too fast to ignore. Just two years ago, vape shops in first-tier cities like Shanghai and Beijing were hard to find. Today, there are more than one hundred in each, and they span the country.

Walk around Gulou, and you will see shops with goofy names like ‘Vape Professor’ or ‘Vape Saint’ alongside more traditional ones selling tobacco cigarettes.

“Vaping is no doubt seeing an upwards trend, and cigarettes will slowly get replaced by vapes,” says Brian Bai, the found-

“They’ll say to me, ‘Why is the smoke so big? It’s like a chimney! You should stick with classic cigarettes, young man!’”

er of Tianjin’s first drop in China’s tobacco sales.

But China’s love affair with smokeable vapor began long before that. In 2003, it was Chinese pharmacist Hon Lik who invented the first e-cigarette – a device he hoped would help him quit smoking after the same habit killed his father. In the years following his invention, a production hub was established in southern China, exporting vaping hardware to countries all over the globe. Today, roughly 9 out of 10 of the world’s e-cigarettes and vaporizers come from Shenzhen, according to the *New York Times*.

Vaporizers, rather than e-cigarettes, make the subculture. These are the high-tech devices you’ll find in vape shops, which are more customizable and more expensive than your average cigarette-shaped e-device. Instead of replacing a cartridge, users pour a cocktail of nicotine and other ingredients – a substance known as ‘vape juice’ or ‘eliquid’ – into the device.

Products are colorful and come in different materials, shapes and flavors. Eliquids have names like ‘Mr Who’ and ‘Passion Dude.’ Vape stores across Beijing all seem to play the same video on loop, in which trendy-looking young people in nightclubs blow funnels of smoke into the air to a hip-hop soundtrack.

Just as traditional smoking has a long history of being marketed as rebellious and cool, the same tactics are being used by the vaping industry. At Cyovape, a chain of vape



Left: Fei Xiang samples some of his vape shop’s products (photo by Jocelyn Richards)

Right: Shanghai Vape co-owner Sean Dickinson exhales vaporized eliquid (photo by Dominic Ngai)

stores in Beijing, a TV plays a video of vaping young people as a shop assistant blows smoke ring after smoke ring. (It looks pretty cool, we admit.)

And yet, Cyovape's customers range from students and young professionals to 60-year-olds, the shop assistant tells us. Products sell for as low as RMB60 to as high as RMB3,000. "I don't smoke," says the assistant. "But I took up vaping after I started working here. Before, I didn't even know what vaping was. I think it's really fun."

A customer surnamed Liu samples a few e-liquids. The Beijing local says he only vapes occasionally. "I'm just curious. I like to try the different flavors. It's safer than normal cigarette smoking."

Vaping is almost certainly less harmful than traditional cigarette smoking, although information about their long-term effects is still murky. A study released by Public Health England in 2015, suggested vaping was found to be 95 percent less harmful than smoking tobacco. This past February, new research carried by the *Annals of Internal Medicine* suggested e-cigarettes are "far safer" than smoking and have low risks associated with long-term use.

In China, where awareness of tobacco's health effects is still limited, knowledge of vaping's impact on the body is rudimentary at best. Vape shop owner Fei chuckles as he talks about elderly people who spot him vaping on the street.

"They'll say to me, 'Why is the smoke so big? It's like a chimney!' Or, 'There must be chemicals in that. You should stick with classic cigarettes, young man.'"

They're not wrong. But while there are some unhealthy chemicals found in e-liquids (such as propylene glycol), Fei defends his



“Every smoker is a potential vaper”





choice, saying they are used in many processed foods too. “People consume this stuff every day in China, they just don’t know it.”

Last November, the WHO warned all 180 signatories of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control that electronic smoking devices are “unlikely to be harmless,” and long-term use is expected to increase the risk of various diseases associated with smoking.

For many Chinese, vaping is a great way to wean off Double Happiness. But others warn that vaping, with its colorful apparatuses and candy-like e-juices, will attract young non-smokers, and act as a gateway into smoking. The Hong Kong government is among those to cite the ‘gateway’ argument, one of the reasons it plans to outlaw all e-cigarettes by next year. Already, possessing or selling an e-cigarette liquid containing nicotine in Hong Kong carries a potential penalty of up to two years in prison and HKD100,000 fines.

Most of the young people we meet in the mainland’s vape stores, however, say they were smokers before they tried vaping. Smoking – at least in China – seems more likely to be a gateway to vaping, and not the other way around.

“Every smoker is a potential vaper,” says Sean Dickinson, cofounder of Shanghai Vape, one of just three vape stores in the city when it opened in 2015. Though most of his customers are young, tattooed males between the ages of 20 and 35 (“your typical early adopters in China”), Dickinson says the smoking crowd promises plenty of diversity.

“There’s a huge mix of vapers, just like how smokers span all sorts of demographic groups,” he explains, adding that it’s important to differentiate between people who are trying to quit smoking and those who consider vaping a hobby. “People who are trying to give up smoking could be anyone – 68-year-old retired Shanghainese men to college students.” Hobbyists, on the other hand, are

typically young. Like most subcultures in China, vaping is bred and kept alive online. Every vape shop has its own WeChat group, and vapers are constantly posting about the latest gadgets.

Until recently, the Chinese government had little reason to regulate the industry – vaping devices were primarily created for overseas consumers, after all, not Chinese ones. But as a growing number of mainlanders adopt the hobby and open vape shops of their own, regulation problems abound in this new industry.

Kiki Cheung, marketing manager for Shenzhen-based eliquid line Aspire, says questions over fake e-juices remain. It’s unclear what raw materials are used in their manufacture, and factory conditions remain a mystery. “[Fake eliquids] are a serious problem,” she tells us. “For consumers, using fake vape juices affects not only the vaping experience but also their health.”

Vape store owner Fei agrees. “I just hope the country will introduce laws to supervise this,” he says, taking a long hit on a new China-designed mod by Vape Kungfu. “So that this industry can develop healthily, unlike now, where there is no order and it’s all up to the individual.”

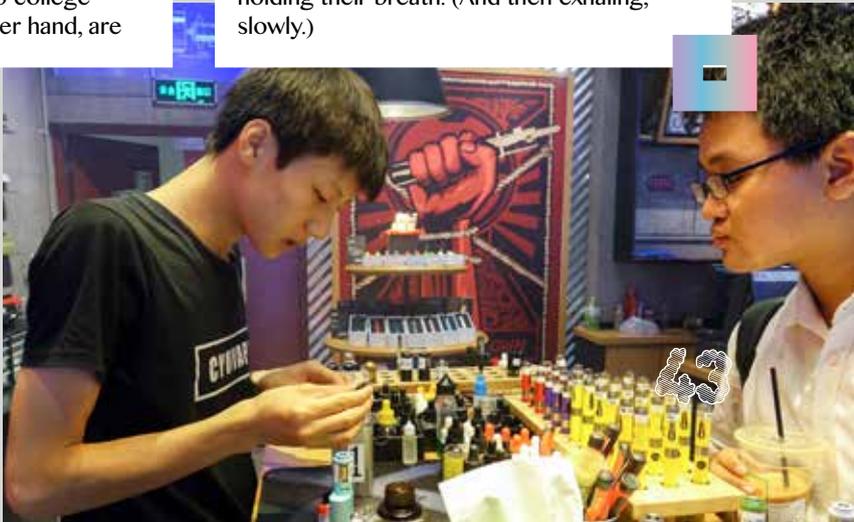
In 2015, the National Health and Family Planning Commission stated its intent to regulate the production, sale and use of e-cigarettes on the mainland. But so far, no restrictions have been enforced.

For now, industry insiders wonder: Will the country rely on smoking cessation alone to avert the human and economic consequences of its tobacco burden? Or, will it choose to support an alternative that, while not flawless, current research suggests is significantly safer than conventional cigarettes? That, ultimately, is a choice China has to make.

Until then, today’s vaping aficionados are holding their breath. (And then exhaling, slowly.)

Left: A customer surnamed Liu samples eliquid flavors at Beijing vape shop Cyovape

Right: A Cyovape store assistant explains some of the shop’s vape products to Liu (photos by Dominique Wong)



TWO YEARS ON...

compiled by Dominique Wong,
Yuka Hayashi and Vivian Liu

Beijing After The Smoking Ban



MA

RESTAURANT OWNER

“Although in the past customers could smoke inside, no restaurants allow it now. As you can see, right now I am smoking outside. Of course I think [the ban] is a good thing. It’s good because it makes for a cleaner dining environment and doesn’t bother our customers.

We still have the same number of customers. It’s just that now people know not to smoke inside. There are some people who try to enjoy a smoke with their beer, but after we tell them not to, they stop. People are more civilized than before – their attitudes have really improved a lot.

We’ve been here for 10 years. In the past, a lot of people would smoke inside. We’d have ashtrays on the tables. But now we aren’t allowed to have ashtrays or lighters – there’s a government department that checks and if they discover them, you get fined. I’m not sure how much, because we’ve never been fined. Even the police are concerned with this issue and customers can report you – they all have phones that they can use to make a complaint.

I think that on the city’s outskirts and in other Chinese cities, it’s easier to get away with breaking the rules. It’s stricter in Beijing.”



“I started smoking when I was 8, and now I’m 42. I smoke three packs a day. What else do you do when you have nothing to do?”

ZHANG

MEDICAL CLINICIAN

“I smoke ten cigarettes a day. I don’t really have a reason for smoking. I used to see my friends smoking so I started as well. After you start smoking with your friends once, you have to smoke with them again or else it’s impolite. I’ve smoked about twenty something years.”

GUAN

CAFE CUSTOMER

“I’ve been smoking for 10 years. I’ve tried vaping before – I have a vaping set at home – but I’m concerned about the health effects of it. It’s true that there are more harmful chemicals in regular cigarettes than e-cigarettes, but I’m still worried about the damage that may occur after the liquid vapor [from e-cigarettes] enters the body.

I know that cigarettes are harmful but right now smoking energizes me – it motivates me, similar to the feeling people get from drinking tea or coffee.

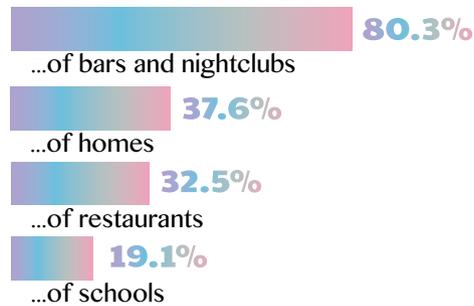
I want to quit both cigarettes and e-cigarettes. But I still have a lot of e-cigarettes at home, and it’s a waste if I don’t finish them.”

HUANG

ORGANIZER OF VAPE ASIA TOUR, A VAPING EXPO

“I think that vaping will replace traditional cigarettes in the future. Acceptance from young people is especially high. These people influence those around them, including their parents and elders. After all, once lit, cigarettes produce more than 4,000 kinds of harmful substances. And e-cigarettes only produce a little harm to the body.”

Which places in Beijing contain the most indoor smoke?



1 in 5

Beijingers smoke

1.1% fewer Beijing adults smoke now than in 2014

200,000 fewer Beijingers smoke now than in 2014

16.8% of Beijing smokers have quit smoking before (higher than 2014 by 1.9 percent)



Data compiled from a 2016 biannual report about smoking by the Beijing Center for Diseases Prevention and Control and a 2017 report by the Patriotic Health Campaign Committee of Beijing.

“The ban has made a big difference. There used to be guys in here that would literally smoke all the time”

“The ban has brought changes but some customers, even if you tell them to stop smoking, will just continue smoking and ignore you. Some people we tell not to smoke will go outside to smoke, or if they see the sign themselves they’ll go out – but I still think most people just ignore it.

We try to stop people from smoking inside, but if they don’t listen then we leave it there. But we’ve never been fined for flouting the ban. We’re not afraid of it.

We’ve been here for 13 years. Before the ban, we let people smoke inside. There would be a lot of people smoking, especially at nighttime.

I think the ban has made a big difference. There used to be guys in here that would literally smoke all the time. You can even see a difference walking down the street – people would always smoke on the street but now you barely see it.”

WU

SICHUAN RESTAURANT OWNER



LI

DOCTOR AT BEIJING HONG KONG CLINIC

“I think there aren’t as many people – both my patients and people I see on the street – smoking these days, and even if they do smoke, they aren’t as obvious about it, especially in public.

Nevertheless, there are still many smokers who are less aware of how much their smoking affects the public. Once, my husband criticized a smoker at a bus station, but the smoker ignored him and kept on smoking carelessly. If smokers themselves are oblivious to the harm, not only to themselves but also to others, then ultimately there is no solution no matter what we, non-smokers, suggest.

I also realized that Japanese patients in our clinic smoke less than Chinese patients do.”

HUA

PASSERBY

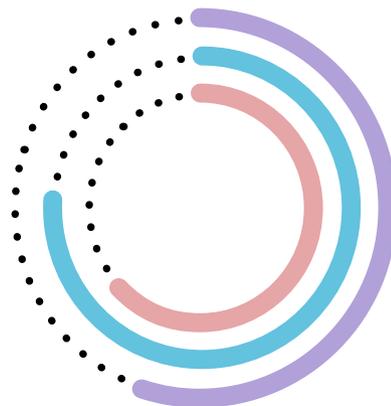
“I’ve tried e-cigarettes before but I thought the flavor was weak. It had a fake taste. The usual cigarettes I smoke are quite strong. The vapor doesn’t have the same strong effect that I’m used to from smoking normal cigarettes. I smoke the type of cigarette that’s grilled – you can’t get that outside of China. I love smoking. When you smoke for a long time you like it and get used to it. I ignore the bad effects of it. Having the box in my hand calms me down. Without it, I feel insecure.”





"I started smoking when I was 8, and now I'm 42. I started smoking because I had nothing to do. I smoked my parents' cigarettes at first. Now, I smoke three packs a day. Why do I smoke? What else do you do when you have nothing to do? I smoke when I have nothing to do or when I'm tired from work. I'm addicted."

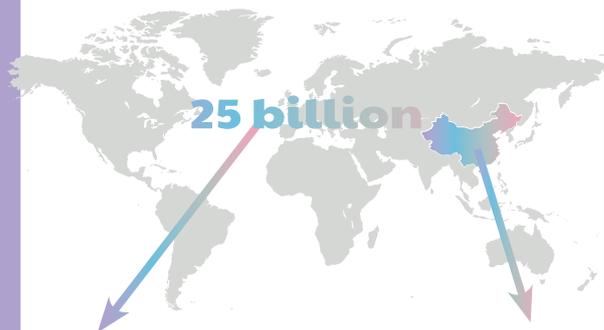
WANG
CONSTRUCTION WORKER



55% of netizens have a family member who smokes at home

63% of netizens have seen people smoking in restaurants in the past week

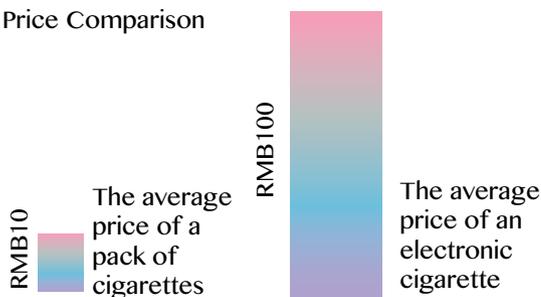
76% of netizens are happy with Beijing's smoking ban



the projected value of the global vape market in USD by 2021

China manufactures 90 percent of the world's vaping equipment and 42 percent of the world's cigarettes

Price Comparison



Data compiled from a 2017 report by the Patriotic Health Campaign Committee of Beijing, research from Stanford University and the *New York Times*.

EAT & DRINK



STEAK YOUR CLAIM

Another month, another steak house opening, p54



Singaporean Crab
p51



The New Migas
p52



High-End Nightlife
p55



GETTING MODERATELY DEEP WITH...

A Waiter at a Beijing Snack Restaurant

image and interview by yuka Hayashi

This month, we speak with a waiter whose friends call her Wangzai Niunai. (The nickname comes from those red milk cartons at convenience stores with a little cartoon boy on them.)

How are you feeling today?

I'm feeling pretty bored. I mean, it's the same old routine of going to work, eating and heading home – nothing special *[laughs wryly]*.

What's the first thing you thought when you woke up this morning?

I thought, "Gotta wash my face, gotta get to work!"

What is your idea of the perfect day?

A happy day spent with my best friends, doing things we all like.

Who is your best customer?

My best customer is this guy who knows me so well, he calls me Wangzai, my nickname.

Who is your worst customer?

I guess generally, those who find something to criticize even when there isn't anything.

Which living person do you most admire?

I admire all the strong, powerful women in the world, and I wish to become one, too. I believe being one will lead to a satisfying life.

When and where are you happiest?

Definitely when I'm with my family at home, eating or chit-chatting. Just having an ordinary day with my family makes me very happy.

Which talent would you most like to have?

I'd love to have more entrepreneurship or management skills, because my dream is to start my own business – preferably some kind of heartwarming Western-style restaurant.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

I don't think there are any big ones for now. When customers are satisfied and praise my service.

If you could change one thing about your life, what would it be?

I would change my financial status, and become rich! Why? Well because then I could start my own Western-style restaurant and make all my customers smile.

What is your most treasured possession?

My parents, because without them, I wouldn't even be here. And materially, I'd say money *[laughs]*.

What trait do you most value in a person?

Openness, honesty and laid-back attitudes. I don't like people who are deceitful.

What is it that you most dislike?

In terms of personality, I'd say someone who thinks too much. In terms of food, coriander.

What is your motto?

I'm a small person with big dreams.

What always makes you laugh?

I guess happiness. Do I always laugh? Well yeah, quite often! *[laughs]*

What's the most surprising thing that's happened to you?

Nothing surprising has happened to me yet, but I'd be really surprised if the person I like liked me back. *[blushes]*

Which era of Beijing's history would you most like to have lived in?

Tang dynasty, it's depicted as such a dream-like era in many TV shows, though I prefer today's government because it's not only governed by the royal family, so it's much fairer I guess.

Who is your hero?

[The actor] Tang Yan, she's so positive and inspiring.

Visit Wangzai's shop near the intersection of Xinzhong Jie and Shizipo Jie, Dongcheng.

GRAPE VINE

SNACKS IN THE CITY

There are plenty of new happy hours for me to report on here. But the biggest news in Beijing's restaurant world is not happy in the least. Last month, our city's expat community lost a gem: Mike Peters, food and wine editor of *China Daily*. He passed away from pancreatic cancer all too suddenly, after a dire diagnosis earlier this summer.

Mike wasn't just another food writer in Beijing. He was *the* food writer in Beijing. His tenure here, eight years at *China Daily*, outlasted pretty much any other expat's food writing gig. And with good reason: Mike loved his job. Every time I saw him, he was exclaiming about some bottle of wine, some juicy steak, something wonderful he'd eaten. Whereas I've often descended into bratty bouts of 'ugh, can I just eat noodles at home for once?' Mike went into every review, smiling wide, like it was the first one.

Mike was one of the first expats I met in Beijing. In the summer of 2014, my appetizer to the long, boozy meal that's become my China life, I was an intern at *China Daily*, scared and excited and lost. Mike was a guide and a role model, to me, to interns before me, and to interns after me. I'm sad he won't be there to guide young, nervous newbies any longer. But even if he can't, I know his attitude still guides me: That when you enjoy good food and good wine, you enjoy life. **NM**



You've Got Another Jing Coming

Finally, finally, Jing-A Brewing has gotten into the bottle game. After years selling its ultra-popular Workers Pale Ale on tap in restaurants and bars across town, Jing-A has made the brew portable. And... plaid.

Jing-A is so well-known among Beijing expats that many are surprised to learn that the brewery doesn't already sell bottled beers. The original bottle-slingers were Slow Boat, who were distributing bottles of their Zombie Pirate Pale Ale long before they ever had a glitzy three-story taproom in Sanlitun. Arrow Factory and Panda Brew also now sell bottles around the city. So look out for a little local color next time you visit your favorite hutong beer fridge. **NM**

OFF THE BEATEN PLATE



Everyone loves a basket of complimentary bread. Everyone loves a basket of *multiple* complimentary breads. But what about two complimentary breads, fused into one? At Sureño, Chef Talib Hudda takes bread baskets to the next level with his brioche-focaccia – and yes, that's brioche and focaccia in one. A unique blend of flavors and textures, this loaf offers diners both a twist on traditional European flavors *and* a science lesson. To create it, Hudda combines both brioche and focaccia doughs at a precisely timed moment in their proofing process – the yeasts' final rise before baking. And it doesn't stop there: The result isn't just served with butter, but with whipped olive oil. **HP**

Sureño, The Opposite House (see Listings for details)

MIFAN/MAFAN

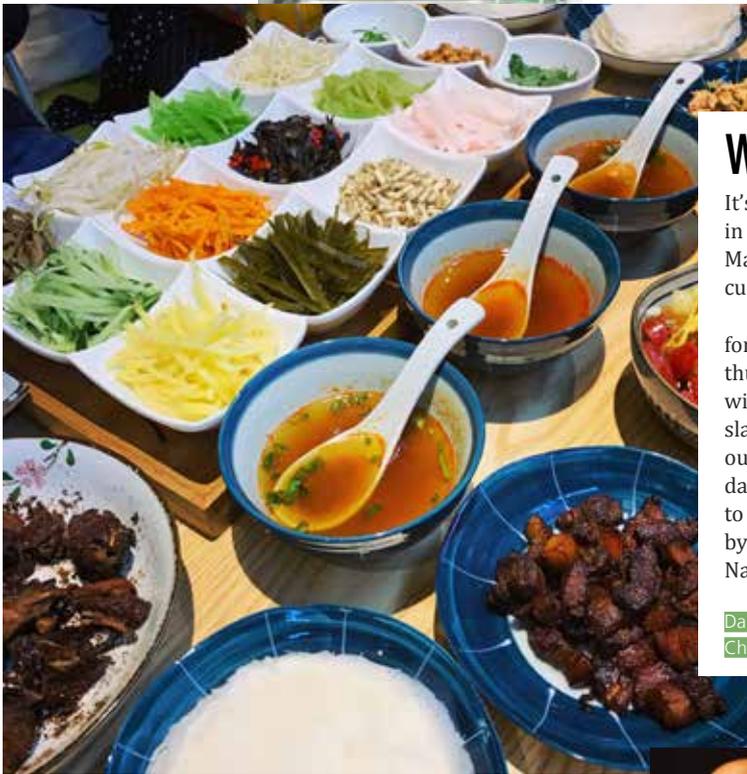
We Tell You
if the Rice is
Worth the
Hassle



Alesia

If you're big on carbs – Paleo diet, go [expletive] yourself, right? – then you're going to love new French-style bakery Alesia. We're talking freshly baked bread and pastries, strong smooth coffee, and high-quality ingredients at modest prices (RMB15-24). Conveniently located in the heart of Dongzhimen, the cafe is a colorful addition to the area. (Literally. Check out that mint green storefront.)

Tue-Sun, 9am-8pm; 8 Shizipo Jie, Dongcheng (next to Pizza Saporita) 东城区十字坡街8号 (Pizza Saporita 旁边)



Wawa

It's not often we hear the words 'fast-casual' and 'Guizhou' in the same sentence. But now, Chaoyangmen's U-Town Mall is now home to its very own fast-casual Guizhou-cuisine restaurant.

Not familiar with Guizhou food? First thing: It's not for the faint of heart. A popular Guizhou saying goes as thus: "Without eating a sour dish for three days, people will stagger with weak legs." Basically, this cuisine will slap you in the face with spice and tang. But Wawa eases our intimidation with hip surroundings and simply the darnedest plates and bowls. Allow Wawa to be your intro to some of the most addicting food in China. Or just stop by for Guiyang-style street snacks after buying jeans at Old Navy.

Daily, 10am-10pm; B1, Crowne Plaza U-Town, 3 Sanfeng Beili, Chaoyang 朝阳区三丰北里2号悠唐购物中心B1层

Jumbo Seafood

Jumbo Seafood may be in the same mall as multiple Chanel outlets, but servers here are unembarrassed to hand out bibs, which feature cartoon crabs and the restaurant's name in Comic Sans. But hey, you're gonna need 'em – Jumbo Seafood serves some seriously jumbo crabs, swimming in authentically flavorful Singaporean curry.

Daily, 11am-3pm and 5.30-10pm; L6-D6005 SKP Mall, 87 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路87号北京SKP, L6-D6005 (6501 3435)



Bottega (Nali Patio)

Sure, this is yet another Southern European concept in Nali Patio, but Bottega is definitely worth your thyme and money. The menu is back to the basil, with unforgettable wood-fired pizza and a spritz-focused drink selection. Our prediction: Bottega's dough will bring in some serious dough (much of which will undoubtedly be ours).

Daily, 10am-midnight; 2/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园2/F (6416 1752)



MIGAS MERCADO

The Life of the Party

words by Noelle Mateer, images by Yuka Hayashi

Spain is a monarchy and China isn't. But if Beijing's restaurants had a queen, it would be Migas, the Spanish restaurant-cum-bar-cum-nightclub whose second location now rests atop the new China World Mall like a crown with LED lighting.

And what a crown it is. Migas Mercado was arguably this year's most anticipated opening, and its debut does not disappoint. But while the original Migas – an icon of Sanlitun – has a roof so long and wide you could play football on it, Migas Mercado's setup is different. Its terrace forms the outline of a semicircle, snaking its way around the mall's cylindrical atrium, which vaguely resembles some sort of centrifuge, giving the place the vibe of a spaceship, blasting off to Planet Groove. When it's nice out – and September is nice – you can gaze upon the CCTV Building, and down on the unfortunate Beijingers navigating the Third Ring below. When it's not nice out, you can go inside.

There we find the rack for Migas' many hats. There's fancy Migas, cocktail Migas, lunchtime Migas, grab-and-go Migas – each of which is equally tasteful. It is a testament to the brilliance of Migas' designers that all these hats share the space seamlessly, one concept blending into another, distinct yet interconnected. Aesthetically speaking, here's our main takeaway: Dope lights, more purple.

To be sure, the standout experience here is dinner. Food in Migas Mercado's dining room is largely similar to that in Migas' first location (this is a very good thing), with slightly more emphasis on ingredients. Mercado means 'market,' after all, and the goal of many dishes here is to make its key ingredient shine. Our fish comes largely unadorned, cooked with olive oil and salt. Chefs here understand something that far too few in this city have realized: The best pairing is simply a glass of wine.

After a megawatt multicourse dinner featuring such impressive players as shaved truffles, dry ice and seemingly never-ending cava bubbles, it's easy to feel like Migas Mercado is some ultra-exclusive dining club. But as we leave (several drinks later), we pass shelves full of the same Traitor Zhou's bagels we've eaten at 2am while taking a break from dancing on the original Migas dancefloor. It's not every restaurant that sells both high-end *and* drunk food. But damn, we wish it were.

Migas Mercado; Daily, 11am-late; 7/F China World Mall, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城7层 (6500 7579)



MAKAN KITCHEN

Satay For Days

by Noelle Mateer

When it comes to Southeast Asian restaurants, we've always complained that there are too few options in Beijing.

Hilton Beijing appears to have listened. They've just added a bajillion new Southeast Asian options to Beijing.

OK, that's an exaggeration. But when it comes to 'Southeast Asian food' and 'variety,' Hilton Beijing's new Makan Kitchen truly has it covered. That's because Makan Kitchen is an entire buffet of Singaporean, Malaysian, Thai, Indian and Vietnamese options. Actually, make that several buffets – Makan Kitchen's expansive space features countertops and cupboards galore, all chock-full of flavorful options.

All within the space of one (very filling) meal, we sample chicken and beef satay skewers. We



slurp laksa. We chow down on king prawns in red curry. We taste Indian spices, fresh mint and coriander, blazing hot chilis. Worse hotel buffets get bad raps for bland food. Offering tables on tables of curries and hot sauces is an ingenious way to avoid that pitfall. And we dig.

Drink options are just as plentiful. Wash all the flavor down with freshly blended juices (we love our dragonfruit juice, served in a hollowed-out dragonfruit), coffees, teas and beers. You can amp up the health factor with Makan's array of fresh tropical fruits – or in-

dulge in a little midday wine because no one here will judge you. Just be prepared to stay for a while; with this many options, you won't want to leave quickly.

Lunch: RMB258 plus 15-percent service charge; Dinner: RMB298 (RMB328 with free-flow drinks) plus 15-percent service charge; Mon-Fri, noon-2.30pm and 6-10pm; Sat-Sun, noon-2.30pm and 6-10pm; 2/F Hilton Beijing; 1 Dongfang Lu, Dong Sanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路东方路1号2层(5865 5020)

HANA BY HATSUNE

On a Roll

by Noelle Mateer



China World Mall has a 'gorgeous view' of the CCTV Building, and we have seen it plenty of times.

The new mall opened in March. Now it's September. Since then, we've been visiting regularly, as restaurants throughout have opened, piecemeal (see our review of Migas, p. 52; our review of F Bistronome, June; our review of Atta BJ, June). If you're a regular reader, you get it: The view is cool and stuff!

But now, there are so many restaurants with this view, that the view itself is no longer noteworthy enough for us to tell you to go somewhere. A restaurant needs to have that view, plus something else attractive. Like dinosaur bones. Or those hip floating egg tank things. Or, I dunno, good food?

What we're trying to say is: Hana has that

obscenely ubiquitous good view of the CCTV Building. But more importantly, it's got grub to make us go, yeah, *That's Beijing* readers, totally go there.

Hana is the new concept by beloved Cali-style sushi chain Hatsune. And while there are rolls (and they're delicious), this place hews more Japanese than Californian. We sample a rainbow platter of different sashimis, simple yet delicious cooked okra and chewy udon noodles before indulging in three fresh oysters (RMB145 for the set), each topped with something different (the best being a soft-boiled egg). Meanwhile Hana's shrimp tempura, whose prawns come wrapped in seaweed and then battered, are the most refined take on fried food we can think of. Our favorite is a simple scallop (RMB108), which

comes glistening atop a sheet of nori.

Hana is a bit more upscale than Hatsune, but still relaxed – our elegant fresh seafood comes from the same menu as Tokyo street-style bowls of ramen (RMB56, we don't need to tell you ramen is great, right?). And the atmosphere is casual enough for groups of friends, and nice enough for romantic dates. Meanwhile, a private room in the corner has a spectacular – you guessed it – view. And we're willing to bet that, even if you've seen it a million times, a bottle of sake here will make it look new again.

Daily, 11am-9pm; NL4022 4/F, North Building, China World Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区4楼 NL4022 (8595 0278)



FLORA STEAK & BAR

An American Dream

by Vivian Liu



Flora Steak's menu gets right to the point, so we will, too – no small talk. Asparagus soup is asparagus soup. Cheese fries are fries with cheese. The menu isn't complicated or confusing. It's simple, and it's American. And as far as we're concerned, that's a good start.

Hearty American meals are the specialty here at Flora. With surf-and-turf, barbecue, roast chicken and, of course, steak – the big portions and expert comfort food make Flora Steak a carnival for carnivores. Try hot dogs, corn dogs, roast lamb – even fries can be topped with beef. We love the lamb with tortilla chips (RMB78) – a fun, meaty starter that you won't regret, even if your arteries clog.

For those less excited about cholesterol, Flora offers a variety of snacks and salads as well. The rainbow-colored salad (RMB68) is delicious and punchy, with bits of avocado and beet atop a bed of leaves, and our carbonara (RMB68) is rich and creamy. For something sweet, our apple pie (RMB48) with vanilla ice cream is an all-American treat. Soft, syrupy baked apples with cinnamon and nutmeg and hints of lemon just can't go wrong. Not in America, and not in Beijing.

Flora's massive two-floor space is the most magical part. It's huge, but booths provide intimacy amongst all the space. The colorful geometric wallpaper and wooden tables are a surprisingly pleasing juxtaposition.

The large space, rustic food, and modern decorations make it relaxed and the ideal destination for downtown families on a Saturday lunch. But it's also not hard to imagine fun happening late into the night with a drinks menu the length of *Finding Dory's* cast, and a stage for local rock bands. You can picture birthday parties for 6-year-olds in this restaurant. You can visualize a circle of table-slapping, beer-chugging college students in this restaurant. You can imagine high school reunions, and envision date nights in this restaurant.

Ultimately, Flora Steak is a shape-shifter, and one many can be excited about. But there's no doubt who's most excited about it: our taste buds.

Daily, 11am-2am; 103 Meilin Dasha, Gongti Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东路美林大厦103室 (8880 7997)

EQUIS

You (Plural) Will Like This Place

by Noelle Mateer

"Ah, Equis," you say, as you reach this page of your favorite English-language Beijing-based lifestyle magazine. "I know what Equis means. That's Latin for horse."

Alas, Equis' opening slogan last month may have been 'Gates Unlocked' – but no, you (and possibly they) are thinking of 'equis.' *Equis*, meanwhile, is Latin for 'you, plural,' or 'yous.' We don't have 'you, plural' in English. The closest approximation would likely be this Kanye West lyric: "There's a thousand yous, there's only one of me." *Mille equis, solo mei.*

Beijing's Equis is equally prepared for the arrival of Kanye West and thousands upon thousands of yous. The space is celeb-ready and massive, featuring both expansive terraces and hidden VIP rooms. (Equis offers four, *four*, levels of VIP membership.) Equis is the latest, boldest project by the Four Seasons Beijing, and is divided into five sections: The Library, The Cellar, The Lounge, The Courtyard and The Imperial Room, which is for VIP members only. Yes, the rooms' names are proper nouns.

Each of these rooms is large and well-stocked enough to be its own bar, and yet they all interconnect, weaving together a large and shiny playground for the wealthy and thirsty. The Library functions as a (gender-inclusive) Gentlemen's Club, with whisky and cigars. The Lounge features live music and DJs. The Cellar is our favorite: a lounge so blindingly red that we're tempted to say it's the most Chinese – but then there's its bar dedicated to French oysters. This is the kind of fusion we can get behind.

Capital-c Champagne is everywhere here. And yet, there's also a talented bar staff serving an extensive drinks menu. Drink prices aren't as expensive as you might think for a bar this lavish – we (plural) knock back several for under RMB250, and during happy hour (which runs until 9pm), the house cocktails are only RMB60.

Alongside all this booze, try the bar's tapas-style bites, with an emphasis on seafood. An elegant crab puree and fried shrimp are the perfect antidotes for Champagne-wearied stomachs. And ultimately, the finely tuned food-and-drink menus prove one thing: That Equis isn't just a lounge for the wealthy – it's a hangout with substance.

After all, if Equis were indeed a horse, then it would be no mere workhorse. It would be a stallion, a white stallion, or whatever horse breed is fanciest – we don't really know. Who knows horse breeds anymore? The people at the Four Seasons, probably.

Equis, 5/F The Four Seasons Hotel Beijing, 48 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路48号北京四季酒店5/F (5695 8880)





DONHOT

Donkey Burgers and Dope Beats

Here are two things you don't see together very often: rappers and donkey burgers. And yet, on our visit to Donhot, that's exactly what we see. On our tray is a hilarious cartoon drawing of Eminem, a comic book-style bubble protruding from his mouth, reading "Make 'Em Say Yuum!" Also on our tray? A donkey burger.

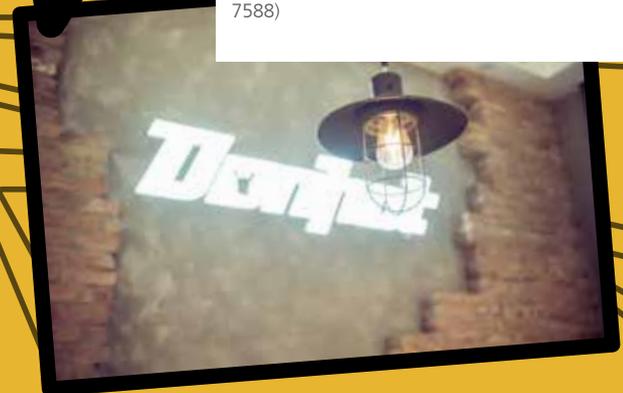
It's an unexpected combo for anyone who's had donkey burgers elsewhere. Known as *lurou huoshao*, the sandwich has a long history, originating in the Ming dynasty. In the many centuries since then, it's become a popular snack in Northeast China, particularly within Hebei, where the city of Baoding is the reigning donkey champion. Today, donkey burgers in Beijing are largely found in grungy streetside shops.

Donhot was founded by Baoding natives who want to change that. Lovers of both hip-hop and their hometown snack, they've created a fun, modern space to chow donkey meat in. Donhot's entire aesthetic is 'hip-hop cool' – from the rap music blaring over the speakers to the street style worn by the staff. And even better, Donhot serves meat you can trust, cooked nutritiously by expert chefs.

In its new Chaowai SOHO location, Donhot has hosted rappers and rap battles. And it may be a small shop for now, but Donhot's got big dreams of conquering the world, one donkey burg at a time. The brand has launched food trucks in Los Angeles and even opened a store in Milan. That's right – this Baoding street snack is about to go global.

So keep your eyes on this one. Actually, keep your tastebuds on this one. These burgers are (Don)hot.

Chaowai SOHO location: Daily, 9.30am-9pm; 160 Bldg C, Chaowai SOHO, 6 Chaoyangmenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街乙6号朝外SOHO-C座160号 (5612 9099). Zhongguancun location: Daily, 10am-10pm; B101a, B1, New Zhongguan Shopping Center, Haidian 海淀区新中关村购物中心B1层B101a (5612 7588)



"HipHop"
Co.



Tianjin reviews,
events and information

THAT'S TIANJIN GOES DIGITAL



THAT'S TIANJIN GOES DIGITAL

Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen... and now Tianjin. We're proud to announce that we are adding a Tianjin section to Thatsmags.com and the That's App, and launching a *That's Tianjin* WeChat account. Here's what to expect.

Events



Are you a Tianjin business owner, promoter or event organizer who wants to spread news of a rad get-together as widely as possible? Look no further than the Tianjin Events Calendars on our website and app.

Not only can you showcase your event to the world, but if you do it early enough, you will also be included in our event roundups. Adding an event to our user-powered events calendar is free of charge. We list all upcoming public events, exhibitions, promotions and deals.

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Listings



We have listings for more than 15,000 restaurants, bars, clubs, theaters, galleries, schools, gyms, studios, stores and more across the country, and our Tianjin page is growing fast. *That's* venue listings contain addresses, opening hours, contact details and descriptions, as well as useful taxi printouts and map functions.

Want to upload a listing? That's also free of charge.

Find out how to do it scanning this QR code.

Guides

The site features a number of useful guides to Tianjin, to ensure you make the most of the city. We've got the best markets for shopaholics, the must-see museum and art galleries for culture vultures and the pick of luxuriant spas for those looking to kick back and relax. For the history buffs, we have a guide to Tianjin's former concessions, while those looking to occupy the little ones can check out our family-friendly guides.

These are complimented by our general guides, which cover just about everything you need to negotiate life in the Middle Kingdom: travel guides that help you find the cheapest flights or book a meal on the high-speed rail network; foodie tips, from in-season produce to how to negotiate your local wet market; and tips on how to use the latest trends, from bike sharing to new WeChat functions.

Giveaways

We'll be partnering with the very best places in town to offer you, our dear users, access to the Tianjin good life. We're talking meals, spas, tickets – the very keys to the city.

News

And of course, we'll be delivering daily developments from around the city, and around China.

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SEASONAL TASTES

Guilt-Free Indulgence

For years we've heard about the benefits and wonders of the Mediterranean diet. With its broad range of ingredients including whole grains, fish, legumes, fruits, fresh vegetables and more, it's no wonder that it delivers such great results.

But this type of cuisine can be hard to acquire in Tianjin. Mediterranean cuisine is, undoubtedly, an all-around healthy way of eating, so when the opportunity arises to eat as much as you can, why not take it? The Westin Tianjin is giving you just that chance with its Mediterranean-inspired buffet. Plus, this one's guilt free. Available for a limited time only.

> RMB336 per person; Mon Sept 11-Sun Sept 24; Seasonal Tastes, 1/F The Westin Tianjin, 101 Nanjing Lu, Heping 和平区南京路101号君隆威斯汀酒店1楼 (022 2389 0168)



RIVER LOUNGE

Shaking Things Up

Early fall is a wonderful time to be in Tianjin, and we can think of no better place to relax and enjoy the view than River Lounge, at The St. Regis Tianjin. Now, just in time for you to cheers summer goodbye, The St. Regis Tianjin has concocted a special drink: the Shake-Mary.

An innovative new Bloody Mary creation, the Shake-Mary is a fun twist on the classic tomato-based cocktail. What's more, you can try all sorts of new 'Mary' cocktails at River Lounge, where bartenders will present a special menu created by St. Regis hotels in destinations around the world, to the backdrop of live jazz music. There are six – yes, six – different Shake-Marys for you to try. So bring your friends and enjoy the view.

> River Lounge, 1/F The St. Regis Tianjin, 158 Zhangzizhong Lu, Heping 张自忠路158号天津瑞吉金融街酒店1/F (022 5830 9958)

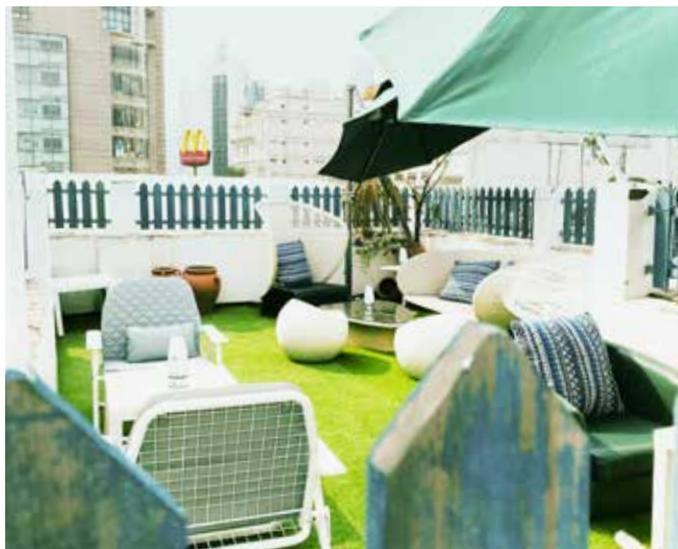


QBA

Put On Your Dancing Shoes

Saturdays are for getting your groove on. For letting loose. For putting that nasty work week behind you. Qba gets this. And that's why, every Saturday, Qba hosts the sauciest dance party in town, with its Salsa Club. At Salsa Club, everyone from seasoned dancers to rhythm-challenged novices get down to live Cuban music. For newbies, professional salsa teachers are on hand to show you the ropes. And even if you're not into dancing, there are still Qba's incredible cocktails.

> RMB50 per person including one drink, RMB100 per person for free-flow selected drinks; Saturdays, 8pm-late; QBa, The Westin Tianjin, 101 Nanjing Lu, Heping 和平区南京路101号君隆威斯汀酒店 (022 2389 0171)



HALF

A Quick Trip to... Santorini?

If you want to enjoy a slice of Santorini but don't have the budget to visit the Greek Isles, try spending a couple of nights at Tianjin's brand new Santorini-themed hostel Half. The hostel offers four guest rooms, each decked out with serene blue-and-white furnishings. Apart from comfortable rooms, the hostel encompasses a beautiful terrace bar. With a selection of renowned beers from all around the world (RMB 20-25) and tasty cocktails, there's a drink for everyone. Parties are held regularly on the terrace bar. So, what are you waiting for? Book a trip to Half pronto.

> Half Terrace Bar opening time, 2pm-midnight; 120 Ha'erbin Dao, Heping 和平区哈尔滨道120号



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Half 民宿
Bed & Terrace



A DREAMING
A BLUE DREAM

Real shot



WELCOME!
Terrace BAR
Opening Hours 14:00 ~ 00:00

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天津市和平区哈尔滨道120号
No.120, Haerbin Road, Heping, District, Tianjin

● Venezia Club Happy Hour Drinking



Venezia Club's got fun on tap. The Italian restaurant may be known for its wine, but now they're serving craft beers from across the world. Try a pint of Beijing's Jing-A or Shanghai's Boxing Cat – or, stick to one of your old favorites like Guinness or Vedett. During happy hour (or happy *several* hours), get a free Italian snack with your pint. Daily, 9pm-close; Venezia Club Italian Restaurant & Winery, 48 Ziyou Dao, Former Italian Concession Area, Hebei 河北区意大利风情街自由道48号 (022 8761 3413)

● Steak Night Dining



Tianjin's favorite Spanish restaurant Rey de Gambas is upping the ante with a night dedicated to steak. This one's for you, carnivores – chow down on a 400g steak, chips, tapas and a free bottle of Spanish beer, all for RMB188. The icing on the cake? Free-flow Spanish wine and sangria.

Every Friday, 7-9pm; Rey de Gambas, 138 Xinhua Lu, Heping 和平区新华路138号 (022 2331 9870)

● The St. Regis Tianjin Mooncake Gift Box Holiday



Mid-autumn festival is fast approaching. This means mooncakes (duh). Luckily, The St. Regis Tianjin has got you covered with its Mooncake Gift Box. Two types of gift boxes are available (Lucky Moon and Auspicious Moon) and both are decorated magnificently. If you want to impress your loved ones and colleagues, you can't go wrong with The St. Regis Tianjin Mooncake Gift Box. Make sure to reserve early to catch the best deals.

The St. Regis Tianjin, 158 Zhangzizhong Lu, Heping 和平区张自忠路158号 (022 5830 9999)

● Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel 7th Anniversary Celebration



Celebrate the seventh anniversary of Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel with deals that are bound to be the life of any party. Enjoy steamed scallops with glass noodles at New Dynasty for RMB7 a piece, selected wine at The Lounge for RMB70 per bottle and 30-percent food discounts at Fire House and BLD.

Mon Sep 4- Sun Sep 10; Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel, 16 Binshui Dao, Hexi 河西区宾水道16号 (022 5822 3388)

● Weekends at Browns / Dining



Looking for somewhere to enjoy a good meal this weekend? Look no further than Browns. The British-style restaurant recently launched a new weekend menu and it is delicious. After a lazy sleep-in morning, head to Browns for brunch (11am-2pm). Dishes include eggs Benedict, American pancakes and shakshuka, plus plenty of coffee and fresh juice to wash it all down. Afternoon tea at Brown's (1-6pm) is also a smart – and tasty – choice. During afternoon tea, diners can enjoy traditional English tea and a three-layer afternoon tea tower as well as a unique "multi-cultural" three layer tower. Slept through brunch *and* the afternoon? Don't worry. Brown's serves pan-fried Hokkaido scallop, braised Australian short ribs and award-winning wine for dinner (5-9pm).

Browns; Minyuan Stadium, Hengyang Lu, Heping 和平区衡阳路民园体育场 (022 8837 0588)





ST REGIS
TIANJIN

River Cruise Escape In Tianjin

This summer we invite you to take the stunning cruise down the river and enjoy the beautiful of Hai River along the way with family and friends at the best address in Tianjin.

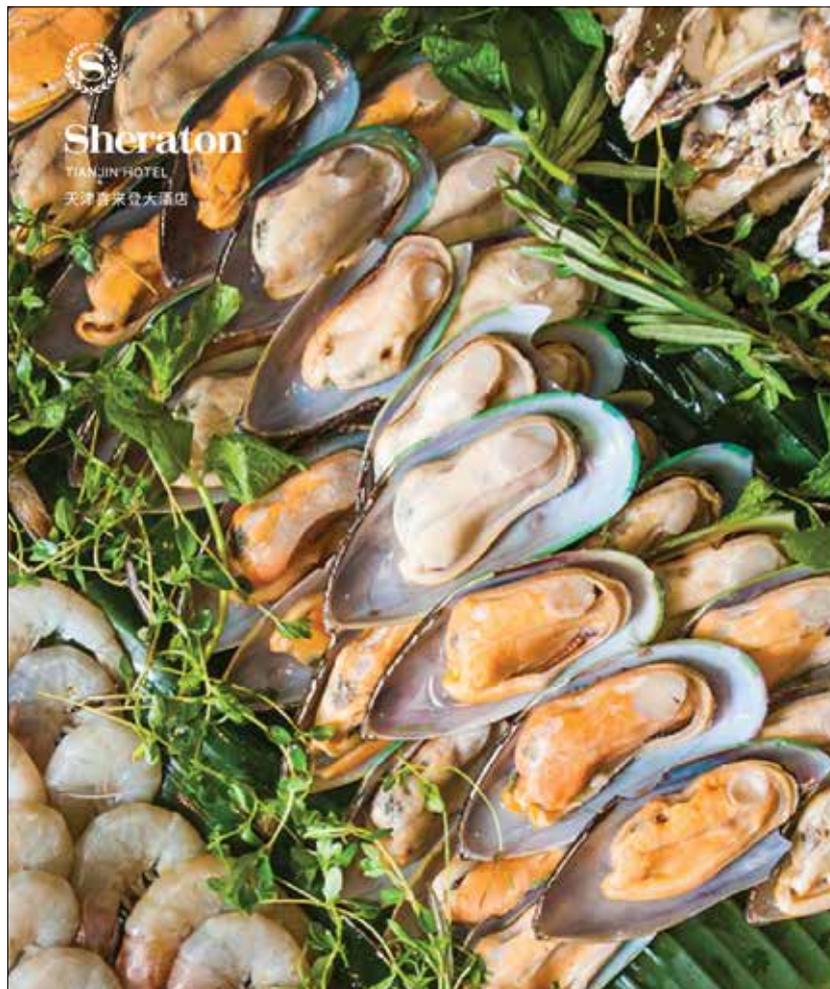
- ◆ One night stay in Superior Room.
- ◆ Daily buffet breakfast for 2 persons.
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Sheraton
TIANJIN HOTEL
天津喜來登大酒店

Sheraton Tianjin Seafood Buffet @ Every Friday

What could be better than starting the weekend with a celebration of the fabulous local and imported seafood, featuring all kind ways of cooking, such as eaten raw, BBQ, pan fried, boiling and deep frying which will definite won your tongue, paired with our special homemade Tropical Fruit Smoothies, bring you the freshness after all.

For more information and reservations please call 022-2731 3388 ext 1850

September – October
Every Friday 18:00 – 21:30

CNY
328_{net/person}

CNY
164_{net/child (5-12 years old)}



Terrace Café & Outdoor Garden
Sheraton Tianjin Hotel
Zijinshan Road, Hexi District,
Tianjin, China

spg.
Starwood
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Guest

● Summer Evening Combo Dining



Summer may be all but over but happy hour just got happier. At Bon Burger, choose one burger and one drink for a bargain total of RMB80. All drinks are included – beers, cocktails, you name it.

Daily, through Sep, 5-10pm; Bon Burger, Yueyang Dao, Guizhou Lu, Heping 和平区贵州路岳阳道交口人民体育馆一层 (022 8312 1520)

● Annual Joint Chamber Golf Tournament Sports



Join the American Chamber of Commerce for a round of golf at Tianjin's own Fortune Lake Golf Club, and afterwards, a celebratory bash at the Tianjin Renaissance Lakeview Hotel. The party will include free-flow drinks, plus an awards ceremony for the winners.

Sat Sep 16, 9.30am-late; Tianjin Renaissance Lakeview Hotel, 16 Binshui Dao, Hexi 河西区宾水道16号 (022 5822 3388)

● Rhinoceros in Love / Theater



Since its premiere in June 1999, Chinese play *Rhinoceros in Love* has been performed more than 2,000 times and charmed millions of people. The play tells the tale of a rhinoceros feeder who falls for a beautiful woman and has been dubbed a 'classic drama' of modern Chinese theatre by critics.

Wed Sep 13-Thu Sep 14, 7.30pm; RMB180-RMB480; Guanghua Theatre, 2 Nan Bei Dajie, Hexi 河西区南北大街2号 (tickets via piao.damai.cn/126182.html)

● Animenz Live 2017 / Music



Famed Japanese pianist Animenz graces Tianjin with his creative renditions of Anime tunes. The pianist is known for his YouTube channel where he posts piano covers of anime soundtracks. Since launching seven years ago, Animenz has collected over one million subscribers, with one video tracking over eight million views. After studying music in Germany as a teenager, the 26-year-old has gone on to tour the world, wowing audiences with his virtuosity and passion. Animenz cites Japa-nese anime *Chobits* as the first anime that inspired him to play anime music, according to *Tokyo Otaku Mode*. The talented pianist performs a range of songs from slow, instrumental tracks to catchy opening songs. Expect a concert full of surprise.

Sat Sep 16, 7.30pm; RMB180-680; Jinwan Grand Theater, Bldg 4, Jiefang Bei Lu, Heping 解放北路4号楼津湾大剧院 (tickets via piao.damai.cn/123093.html)

● Wine Tasting at Le Loft Drinking



Living in Tianjin can be rough for the wine-inclined, but fear not, Le Loft has heard *le* call of duty. This 'social networking event' features imported wines from all over France, and an all-you-can-eat buffet for RMB100 a pop. Remember, this will be happening every month, so you can hang onto those European roots as incessantly as you need to.

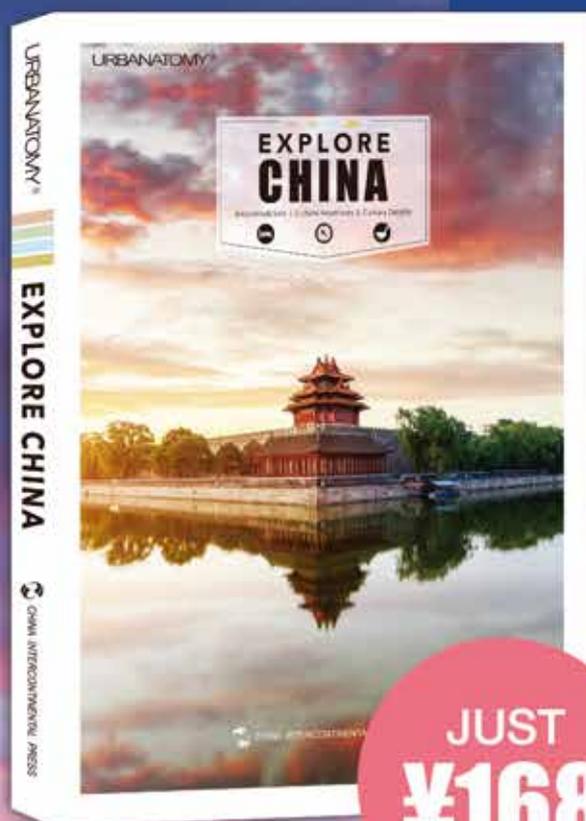
RMB100; 8.30pm, Fri Sep 15 (to reserve, call 139 2099 0990 or message Peter on WeChat at ptshilei)

● Spicy Funny Life Theater



Spicy Funny Life is a comedy drama about a 30-year-old woman who returns to China, single, after studying abroad in the US. But a change in luck falls her way. After mountain climbing one day she falls in love with a man called Andy. The only problem is his age. Through the character's use of complicated tales and false identities, much hilarity and spectacle ensues. Will the woman's parents accept Andy? Or will his age prove too taboo?

Thu Sep 21-Sun Sep 24, 7.30pm (Sat Sep 23, 2.30pm); RMB80-RMB1,080; Binhu Theater, Huan Hu Zhong Dao, Hexi 天津滨湖剧院 河西区环湖中道 (tickets via piao.damai.cn/128216.html)



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● Free the Robots DJ

LA-based artist Chris Alfaro wants you to free some robots, ostensibly by dancing for their return to the sound of his musical project, Free the Robots. In addition to advocating for the rights of the artificially intelligent, Alfaro bumps a mind-bending mixture of hip-hop beats and electronic music, with moments of jazz and psychedelia. No word yet on whether there will be robots at the show.

Thu Sep 7; tickets TBD; Dada (see Listings for details)

● Recycle Gig



Recycle are Beijing pop-punk legends. And now, after 16 years together, the iconic band are back with a new album and the obligatory accompanying tour. Expert a more adult version of their time-honored punk sound.

Sat Sep 23; RMB100 (door), RMB80 (presale); Yugong Yishan (see Listings for details)

● Rachael Yamagata / Gig



Yes, Rachael Yamagata is a songwriter described as 'soulful.' We know many songwriters are described as 'soulful.' But hear us out: Yamagata isn't just any old singer with a guitar and emotions, she's one of the best. With haunting vocals, deeply confessional lyrics and folk-rock vibes, Yamagata has the ability to touch even the most apathetic listener.

Fri Sep 8, 8.30pm; RMB260 (advance), RMB320 (door); Yugong Yishan (see Listings for details)

● TOY / Gig

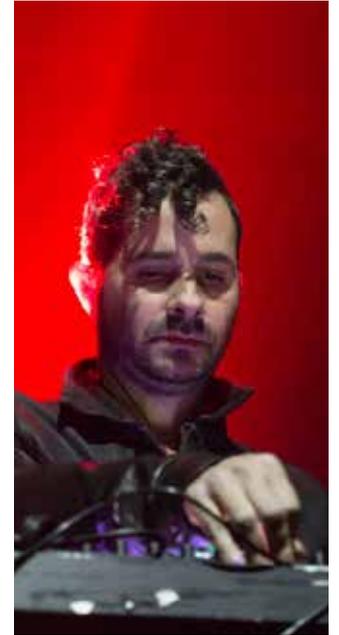


Once branded by *The Guardian* as 'London's hottest new hypessters,' TOY is set to take Beijing on a journey through Krautrock, post-punk and psychedelia, with music that sounds like a (groovy) lesson in rock history. Added bonus: all five of these dudes have killer shaggy haircuts. Seriously, check out that 70s fringe. Listen and watch at Yugong Yishan, where the band are stopping off before their slot at Shanghai's Concrete and Grass festival. Support comes from China's own hot hypessters, Hedgehog.

Wed Sep 13, 9pm; RMB150 (advance), RMB200 (door); Yugong Yishan (see Listings for details)

Pulse

● Telefon Tel Aviv DJ



Experimental electronic music duo Telefon Tel Aviv has seen hard times – the project is now a solo one, after the death of member Charles Cooper in 2009. But now, other-half Joshua Eustis has kept the project alive with new material that's just as edgy and exciting as before. Expect a night of epic glitches and synths.

Sat Sep 16; tickets TBD; Dada (see Listings for details)

● Penicillin Gig



Join Chinese indie rockers Penicillin as they celebrate the release of their debut album *Embrace the World*. The punk-inspired trio are bona fide #millennials, all born in the 90s and penning songs about quintessentially 20-something topics like studying abroad, dreams of traveling and, of course, love.

Sat Sep 9, 9pm; RMB120 (door), RMB100 (presale); Yugong Yishan (see Listings for details)



● Traditions & Transitions Walk

The hutongs may be almost unrecognizable thanks to the great demolition of 2017, but that's not going to stop The Hutong from exploring the past and future of their namesake. Join the bastions of all things cultural for Traditions and Transitions: A Walk and Discussion in the Hutongs of Dongcheng. Find out about the history of the hutongs and what lies ahead.

Wed Sep 6, 10am-1pm; RMB260; Beixinqiao subway meeting point (limited spots, sign up at www.thehutong.com)

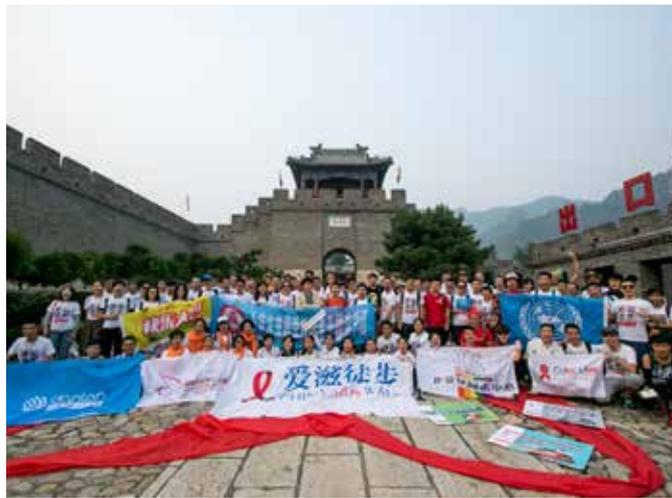
● 2017 Shape the Future Blockchain Global Summit



Bitcoin is hot (see *That's Beijing*, Sep 2016). Find out what all the hype is about at Blockchain Global Summit. The event brings together more than 80 guest speakers, including blockchain experts from all over the world, as well as the world premiere of the first Bitcoin documentary in China (*Bitcoin – Shape the Future*).

Sun Sep 10, 9am-6pm; RMB1,280-3,888 (free for students over 18); Sofitel Wanda, Wanda Plaza, Tower C, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路93号C座 (for more info and to register visit <http://bitkan.com/event>)

● China AIDS Walk / Charity



Looking for something special – and benevolent – to do this September? How about a walk on the Great Wall for charity? China AIDS Walk comprises a walk and other activities that aim to raise awareness and money to help support people affected by HIV/AIDS in China. From now until the end of September, keep an eye out for hikes, parties, gatherings and other activities. Save the date September 23 in particular, we are told. Funds raised will go towards the production of articles and videos, organizing training sessions for young people to understand HIV/AIDS and gender equality, constructing a national network of local stations of the China AIDS Walk and organizing public campaign and advocacy activities related to HIV/AIDS.

Sat Sep 23; Great Wall (for more information and to donate get in contact with the organizers via – WeChat ID: ChinaAidsWalk; chinaaidswalk.cn; martin@bghei.org; 5229 3801)

● Beijing Hiking Festival / Outdoors



September has arrived and you know what that means: Beijing Hikers' annual hiking festival. The festival is split into two hikes: a marathon-esque 24km hike and a more easy-going 10km walk. As always, the treks take place in the beautiful environs of the Great Wall and its surrounding valleys. And, as always, the festival culminates in a celebration involving beer and snacks for all participants. Hikers are free to walk at a 'fast speed' or a 'fun speed.' A reasonable level of fitness is required (especially for the 24km marathon hike) and the hike will go ahead regardless of air quality. Booking and payment deadline is Sep 1.

Sat Sep 9, 6.30am (24km), 8am (10km); RMB700 (24km), RMB500 (10km); Agriculture Exhibition Center meeting point 地铁10号线农业展览馆站见面 (sign up at www.beijingshikers.com)

● Treasure Trove Market



Check out Cultural Keys' (CK) first 'treasure trove' market at Culture Yard. As the name and venue suggests, there's going to be a lot of culture on display, with CK claiming the trove to be "Beijing's most international and eclectic market." Pick up clothes, shoes, jewelry, art, food and more.

Sun Sep 3, 1-7pm; free; Culture Yard (see Listings for details)

● Cocktail Cinema Film



Shanghai event organizers Social Supply (see p17 for our interview with its founders) partners with Hatchery to bring its famed Cocktail Cinema nights to Beijing. The event includes a film screening of Daft Punk's *Interstellar 5555*, as well as specially designed cocktails by Warren Pang (Janes & Canvas). Tickets are limited. Fri Sep 8, 8-11pm; RMB250; secret location to be revealed three days in advance (tickets via www.eventbank.cn/event/11074; for more info email camden@socialsupplyshanghai.com)



● King Salmon Dining

For a limited time, Mai Japanese Restaurant at The Westin Beijing Chaoyang is offering fresh king salmon from New Zealand as part of their #EATWELL campaign. King salmon is truly the king of salmons, and now, while it's in season, it has a brighter color and fresher taste, which Mai's chefs will complement with specially created recipes.

Sat-Mon through October; Mai Japanese Restaurant, The Westin Beijing Chaoyang (see Listings for details)

● Surf & Turf Brunch Dining



Feast (Food by EAST) is now offering its Surf & Turf semi-buffet for brunch. That's right – that means all-you-can-eat oysters, Boston lobsters, mussels and crab legs, plus made-to-order mains like fluffy pancakes and the classic Eggs Benedict. Oh, and Champagne. Because of course.

Weekends, 11.30am-3pm; RMB 388 per person; Feast (Food by EAST, see Listings for details)

● Qui Si Beve Drinking



Star bar Janes & Hooch is hosting Qui Si Beve, a pop-up featuring Cocchi, the Italian producer of world-famous vermouths and aromatized wines. Sample everything from seriously strong negronis to fun (and still strong) slushies. Our fave is the Star Master, served from jugs and even a 7-Eleven-style slushy machine. So, an unexpected bonus: zero wait time.

Daily, 8pm-2am; Janes & Hooch (see Listings for details)

● Smart Drinking 10th Anniversary Awareness



AB InBev is a big deal. So big, in fact, that they've got superstar Eason Chen backing their 'Smart Drinking' campaign, which aims to raise awareness about the effects of drunk driving and binge drinking. This month, to celebrate the campaign's 10th anniversary, AB InBev is hosting a public screening of their short film Smart Choice, where Chen himself will speak.

Sat Sep 2, 6.30pm; Yongdingmen Park, 18 Dongbinhe Lu, Dongcheng 东城区东冰河路18号永定门公园

● New Fine-Dining Catering by Annie's / Dining



It's always a pleasure dining at – or ordering from – Annie's. The family-friendly Italian restaurant has become a Beijing institution thanks to its tasty pizza and pasta and warm service. Now, diners looking for a different Annie's experience can try the restaurant's new fine-dining catering service. Yes, you read that correctly readers: fine dining. And all you have to do is request the service, choose a menu and wait for Annie's to come to your house, where the restaurant's Italian chefs will cook up a storm right in front of your eyes. We catch up with Annie's chefs Marco Trenti, Alessio Di Tullio and Hamner to find out more about the restaurant's fine dining catering service.

Tell us a little about why Annie's started the fine dining catering service.

Hamner: "Some people prefer a more private dining experience, so they are looking for a more high-level fine-dining experience [at home]."

Alessio Di Tullio (ADT): "We've already started the fine-dining service. In the future, we want to serve bigger and bigger events."

What can diners expect?

ADT: "The ingredients are top [quality]. For example, we use tuna from Japan – real tuna – and truffles from Australia or Italy. Everything is special."

Do you think people in Beijing appreciate good Italian food?

Marco Trenti: "Yes, I think more and more, and even now, kids aged three or four years old are already eating pizza and pasta."

Why is Italian food and Annie's so popular?

ADT: "You can eat Italian food everyday. Other cuisines like Mexican or American if you eat for one week, you don't want to eat it anymore. With an Italian restaurant, you have more choice. It's never boring."

For more information about Annie's fine-dining catering service, visit any Annie's restaurant and ask Annie's staff; email catering@annies.cc or call Marlon at 185 1098 8846 to order the fine-dining catering service.



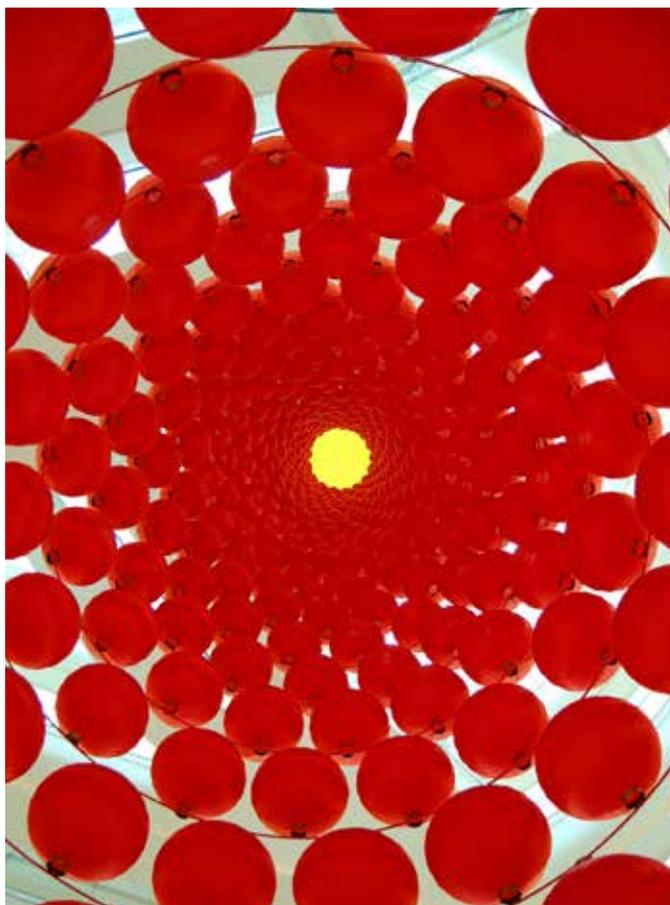


● **10 Years of Dumb** / Exhibition



An exhibition celebrating Ballistic Architecture Machine (BAM) – an award-winning art, landscape and architecture studio in Beijing – *10 Years of Dumb* showcases a decade's worth of crazy hijinks by a “group of likeminded individuals nearly expelled from architecture school,” according to their press release. The group's risks have paid off with their art installations garnering praise both locally and internationally. BAM attributes their success – and mistakes – to their “admittedly dumb strategy” of saying yes to everything. *10 Years of Dumb* highlights artworks from past exhibitions and culminates in a birthday party on Sep 15 evening, co-hosted by BAM's good friends dART. The party promises grand installations, audio-visual arts and live acts.

Sat Sep 2-Fri Sep 15, 10.30am-6pm; Tabula Rasa Gallery, 706 Bei San Jie, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, 798 Art District, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号798艺术区706北三街 (5762 6353)



● **Anna Karenina** Ballet

Anna Karenina is brought to life by the Saint Petersburg Eifman Ballet, who will perform Boris Eifman's ballet of the Tolstoy classic. Rather than cover all of the novel's secondary storylines, Eifman's ballet instead focuses on the famous love triangle between Anna, Karenin and Vronsky. The ballet will be performed as part of NCPA Dance Festival 2017.

Wed Sep 13-Thu Sep 14, 7.30pm; RMB160-880; Opera House of NCPA, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie, Xicheng 西城区西长安街2号 (tickets via sales@theatre-beijing.com)

● **And Give Us the Shadows** Theater



This month, The Royal Dramatic Theatre presents Swedish play *And Give Us the Shadow* as part of NCPA International Theatre Festival 2017. The story portrays a day in the life of a literary genius, who ends up taking his addictions, illnesses and hard-knocks background out on his family.

Thu Sep 7-Sat Sep 9, 7.30pm; RMB180-RMB500; Drama Theatre of NCPA, 2 Xi Chang'an Jie, Xicheng 西城区西长安街2号 (tickets via sales@theatrebeijing.com)

● **Liron Man at Space Cycle** Performance



Handpan maestro Liron Man graces funky Taikoo Li gym SpaceCycle with a special handpan concert. The percussion may sound familiar to regular SpaceCycle goers as Man provided the instrumentals to various classes last month. This time, however, Man and handpan are center stage. No dancing, no sweating – simply sit and enjoy the magic.

Sun Sep 3, 5-6.15pm; RMB100 (advance), RMB140 (door); Space Cycle, N4-40A, Taikoo Li North, 11 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路11号太古里北区 N4-40A (8451 6101)

● **Āotū Screening** Film



After falling victim to the Beijing Brickings a few months ago, the place formerly known as Aotū Studio is back and better than ever. The fresh new digs include a cafe and, as before, hosts regular art exhibitions and performances. Hit up āotū space on Wednesday nights for its weekly film screenings. Recent movie selections include Andrea Arnold's *American Honey* and Japanese drama *Kids Return*.

Wednesdays, 8-10pm; free; āotū space, 67 Beixinqiao Toutiao, Dongcheng 东城区北新桥头条67号 (8408 4189)

LISTINGS

Expensive.....¥
Expense Account¥¥
Highly Recommended*
Top Ten**

OPEN DOOR



NADAMAN

From Tokyo With Love

Are you looking for high-end Japanese cuisine in high-end surrounds? Or do you just fancy a change from your normal routine? Either way, look no further than Nadaman at China World Summit Wing. This exclusive restaurant is serious about transforming contemporary Japanese dining while preserving culinary traditions – and has appointed new Head Chef Hiroaki Karasawa to do just that.

Karasawa is a Tokyo native, and was previously the head chef at hotels everywhere from Japan to Malaysia. At Nadaman, his menus respect the time-honored traditions of authentic kaiseki, while also offering contemporary Japanese specialties. Try his kaiseki-ryori, along with an extensive selection of authentic Japanese dishes, all meticulously crafted using high-quality seasonal produce.

Karasawa has nearly 30 years of experience making Japanese cuisine and will leave no diner disappointed. With Karasawa at the helm, guests can expect a delicious dining experience that is bound to impress even the fussiest of appetites.

> Nadaman; 4/F, China World Summit Wing, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸大酒店4/F (8571 6459)

RESTAURANTS

The Hot One Hundred

About This guide represents our editors' top 100 picks, and includes some *That's Beijing* advertisers. Restaurants rated(*) have been personally reviewed by our experts, and scored according to the cuisine, experience and affordability.

CHINESE

Contemporary & Mixed Cuisine

8 Qi Nian 祈年8号 (Cantonese/Sichuan)

The New World Hotel's flagship restaurant has classic Chinese cuisine in abundance, as well as some vitality-restoring medicinal soups. (Their decent wine list is just as effective.)

> Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:15pm, 5:30-9:30pm, Sat/Sun 12-2:45pm, 5:30-9:30pm; 2/F, New World Hotel, 8 Qianian Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区祈年大街8号新世界酒店2层 (5960 8822)

Din Tai Fung 鼎泰丰 ¥ (Taiwanese)

This Taipei-based franchise impressed Ken Hom enough to call it one of the best 10 eateries in the world, back in 1993. Famous for its dependably delicious *xiaolongbao* or little steam buns. Book ahead, there's always a long wait.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 5-10pm, weekends 11:30am-10pm; 24 Middle Street, Xinyuanxili, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源西里中街24号 (近渔阳饭店) (6462 4502) > Additional branches in Shin Kong Place; Parkview Green; Grand Pacific Mall Xidan; Modern Plaza Zhongguancun; see www.dintaifung.com.cn for details

Jing Yaa Tang 京雅堂 (Chinese, Peking Duck)

Resembling something between a nightclub and a theater, the Opposite House's basement restaurant proves to be more than just style over substance with their range of expertly prepared classic dishes.

> Daily 12-10:30pm, 81/F, The Opposite House, Sanlitun Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路11号院1号楼瑜舍酒廊81楼 (6410 5230)

Peking Duck

The Horizon 海天阁 (Cantonese Beijing Duck) **

Kerry Hotel's Chinese restaurant has widened its predominantly Cantonese and Sichuan horizons to include dim sum, double-boiled soups and Peking duck – and the roast bird here really is fabulous.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 5:30pm-10pm 1/F, Beijing Kerry Hotel, 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心1层 (8565 2188)

Honglu 红炉

> Daily 11am-9:30pm, 5/F Beijing Raffles City, 1 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街1号来福士购物中心05层01号(8409 8199 / 84094310); Daily 11am-10pm, 6 Sanlitun Nanlu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯南6号楼南侧60米(6595 9872 / 6593 8970)

Country Kitchen

The name 'Country Kitchen' may sound like a diner, but a diner this is not. Rosewood Beijing's resplendent Northern Chinese restaurant serves elegant Hebei fare unlike you've ever had. Excellent peking duck is on offer as well.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm and 5:30-10:30pm; 3F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Centre, Huijialou, Chaoyang 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店3层 (6597 8888)

Da Dong 大董

Among the city's most famous haunts, Da Dong guarantees slick cuts of Beijing-style roast duck and delectable wrap fillings. The venue's a class act and the plum sauce is hard to follow.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 22 Dongsishitiao, Dongcheng 东城区东四十条甲22号 (5169 0328); see www.dadong-gadong.com for more locations

Duck de Chine 全鸭季 ¥ *

Good duck is meant to show your guests how wonderful you are, as much as the food. Duck De Chine does that in spades, with fantastic presentation of its crispy, succulent duck (RMB188).

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 6-10:30pm; Courtyard 4, 1949 The Hidden City, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (6501 8881); 98 Jinbao Jie, Dongcheng 东城区金宝街98号 (6521 2221)

Xihe Village Restaurant and Bar

> Mon-Fri Lunch: 11am-2:30pm; Dinner: 5-9pm; Sun: 11am-9pm, 59-33, 3/F, South Area of Sanlitun Taikooli, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯太古里南区三层59-33(6417 6082)

Shanghai

Shanghai Min 小南国

Many swear this chain has the best Shanghai-style *hongshaorou* north of the Yangtze. The jury's out, but its popularity remains.

> 0505, 5/F Raffles City Mall, 1 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街1号来福士购物中心5楼0505号铺 (400 820 9777) > Additional branches in Financial Street; Jinbao Jie; Oriental Plaza; Sanlitun Soho; Xinyuan Nan Lu (see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

Wang Jia Sha 王家沙

Modern Shanghai cuisine – popular with Hong Kong celebrities – famed for its crab-meat dumplings. Try the spiced-salt ribs (RMB62) for a bit of Adam action.

> Daily, 51-30a Taikoo Li Sanlitun (on the third floor of 1:1 shop) 朝阳区三里屯路19号院太古里1号楼3层51-30a号商铺 (6416 3469)

Sichuan/Hunan

Chuan Ban 川办 *

This bright, modestly decorated dining hall is frequently cited as Beijing's best Sichuan restaurant.

> Mon-Fri 7-9am, 10:50am-2pm, 4:50-9:30pm; Sat-Sun 7am-10pm; 5 Gongyuan Toutiao, Jianguomennei Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区建国门内贡院头条5号 (6512 2277, ext. 6101)

Karaiya Spice House 辣屋 *

Bold and fiery Hunan cuisine in the most serene of restaurant interiors. Don't miss the dry roasted duck with a dozen spices and stir fried bullfrog with shiso leaves and ginger. Peanut milk is there to soothe the palate: you'll need it.

> Daily 11:30am-2pm, 5:30-10pm; 3/F, Sanlitun Taikoo Li South, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里19号院南区三层59-30 (6415 3535)

South Memory 望湘园

This restaurant chain is the Hunan staple in the capital. The trademark *shilixiang niurou* (fragrant beef), *duojiao shuangse yutou* (dual-colour spiced fish head) and meltingly tender frog dishes are among the favorites with locals.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 2/F, 230-232, Fenglian Plaza, 18 Chaoyangmen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街18号丰联广场2楼230-232号 (6588 1797); see www.southmemory.com for more locations

Yu Xin 渝信川菜

Open since 1993, Yu Xin's authentic Sichuan dishes have earned a loyal fanbase. Their *liangfen* – a jelly-like substance cut into chunky strips and dressed in an addictive spicy sauce – hits the spot. The rustic, intimate setting of bamboo cubicles and swift, friendly service complete the experience.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 5A Xingfu Yicun Xili, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福一村西里甲5号 see www.yuxin1997.com for other locations.

Transit 渡金湖 ¥¥ **

Sichuan is known for its blazing spices and hot climate. While the latter isn't able to be replicated, the creative minds at Transit have made some fiery additions to the classical, chili-thumping canon, and they will charge you for that knowledge. But unlike many equally expensive joints, this is high-end Chinese dining at its best.

> Daily 12-2:30pm, 6-10pm; N4-36, Sanlitun Taikoo Li North, 11 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路11号三里屯太古里北区N4-36号 (6417 9090)

Yunnan

Dali Courtyard 大里院子 *

If you like authentic Yunnanese food, you'll have to trust the staff: there's no menu, it all just arrives in an intimate courtyard setting. The price (RMB120/person) matches the rustic ingredients.

> Daily 12-2pm, 6-10:30pm; Gulou Dong Dajie, 67

Xiaojingchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街小经厂胡同67号 (8404 1430)

Lost Heaven 花马天堂 (Yunnan, SE Asian)

An emphasis on Yunnan characterizes this menu's fresh journey through the SE Asia passage, with a grandiose yet dark teak interior.

> Daily noon-2pm, 5pm-10.30 (bar open till 1am). Ch'ien Men 23, 23 Qianmen Dongdajie, Dongcheng 东城区前门东大街23号 (8516 2698)

Middle 8 Restaurant 中8楼 *



An oasis at the top of Taikoo Li, Middle 8 is the go-to destination for fresh authentic Yunnan cuisine. The restaurant, stylish yet understated, has plenty of flavorsome well-priced dishes and a killer view to boot.

> Sanlitun: Daily 11am-10pm, Taikoo Li Sanlitun South Area F4, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里南区4层 (6415 8858); Indigo: Daily 11am-10pm, Jiuxianqiao Road No.20 Indigo F2, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路20号颐堤港2层 (8420 0883); Zhongguancun: Daily 11am-10pm, Zhongguancun Plaza Pedestrian Street, No.17, Haidian 海淀区中关村广场步行街R17号 (5172 1728); Fenglan: Daily 11am-10pm, Xizhimen North Street No.32, Maples International Center Blok B, 1 Floor, Haidian 海淀区西直门大街32号枫蓝国际中心B座1层 (6223 5583)

Youyun

> Daily, 10am-11pm, 63 Baobakeng Hutong, Beixinqiao, Dongcheng 东城区北新桥八宝坑胡同63号 6407 2050 / 185 1092 0709

Yun'er Small Town 云洱小镇

Folksy and affordable Yunnanese fare on Beiluoguxiang. Fragrant dishes including the jasmine bulbs with scrambled eggs, lemongrass shrimp and banana leaf wrapped bolete mushrooms will keep us crawling back.

> Daily 10am-11pm, 84 Beiluoguxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷84号 (8404 2407)

Dumplings

Baoyuan Jiaoziwu 宝源饺子屋

Famous for their rainbow of dyed dumplings, Baoyuan have their *jiaozis* (six, under RMB10) wrapped in a larger *yuانبao* silver-lingot shape, with creative vegetarian options and authentic Sichuan food.

> Daily 11am-10pm; north of 6 Maizidian Jie, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街6号楼北侧 (6586 4967)

Mr Shi's Dumplings 老石饺子馆

Since receiving a *Lonely Planet* recommendation the prices have risen and the walls are covered in backpackers' scribbles, but the fantastic dumplings – boiled and fried – are still fantastic.

> 74 Baochao Hutong, Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街宝钞胡同74号 (8405 0399, 131 6100 3826)

Regional

Crescent Moon (Xinjiang) *

Roast mutton enthusiasts go over the moon at this reputable Xinjiang Muslim restaurant. Eastern European and Central Asian influences are evident throughout, with peppery and cumin-spiced dishes living up to traditional Chinese favorites.

> Daily 10am-11.30pm; 16 Dongsi Liutiao, Dongcheng 东四六条16号 (6400 5281)

Jia Chinese Restaurant 禾家中餐厅 (Cantonese)

Featuring modern Ming elements with inspired paintings from Xu Wei, a painter, calligrapher and food and wine connoisseur, the quintessentially authentic house of agriculture produces, Jia Chinese restaurant serves exquisite traditional Cantonese specialties in their purest form with chefs hailing from Hong Kong. Using the freshest ingredients from NUO's very own green farms, NUO Hotel Beijing provides an alternative green gourmet option in town.

> Mon-Fri: 11.30am-2pm, 5.30-10pm; Sat-Sun: 11am-2.30pm, 5.30-10pm; 1/F, NUO Hotel Beijing, 2A Jiangtai Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路甲2号北京诺金酒店一层 (5926 8281)

Da Gui (Guizhou)

Guizhou's famed hot-and-sour cuisine nestled into a charming traditional alleyway. Munch happily into pickled greens and don't miss the salty-sweet deep-fried black sesame balls. They're sensational.

> Daily 10am-2pm, 5-10pm; 69 Daxing Hutong, Jiadaokou, Dongcheng 东城区交道口大兴胡同69号 (6407 1800)

Makye Ame (Tibetan)

Determined to prove that Tibetan cuisine consists of more than just yak-butter tea, the Beijing branch of this nationwide chain serves up nomadic classics such as curried potatoes and roast lamb.

> Daily 10-midnight; 11A Xiushui Nanjia, Jianguomenwai, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外秀水南街甲11号 (6506 9616)

Xinjiang Red Rose (Xinjiang) *

One of Beijing's most famous Xinjiang restaurant, Red Rose serves some of the tenderest lamb skewers around, matched by enormous servings of classics like *dapanji* (a chicken, potato and pepper stew), *latiaozi* (noodles with a spicy tomato sauce) and *nang* (baked flatbread).

> Daily 10.30am-11pm; Inside 7 Xingfuyuan, opposite Workers' Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门对面幸福一村7巷内 (6415 5741)

WESTERN

Fine Dining

Barolo ¥¥ (Italian) *

Average Italian abounds in Beijing: not here, though. Quite the opposite, in fact, meaning Barolo is as well-regarded as the Piedmont wine it is named after.

> Mon-Sun 11.30am-2pm, 6pm-10pm. Ritz Carlton Hotel, China Central Place, 83A Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路甲83号华贸中心丽思卡尔顿酒店内 (5908 8151)

Maison Flo ¥¥ (French) *

Marble slabs, mosaic floors and brass fittings establish the Parisian bona fides; dishes like snails (RMB78), oysters (RMB48 each) and steak tartare (RMB158) confirm. The grandeur is matched only by the service, and the prices reflect the authenticity of the experience.

> Daily 11am-midnight; 18 Xiaoyun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区霄云路18号 (6595 5135)

The Georg **

This hutong mansion has an elegant restaurant, leather-couched lounge area, sleek bar and sick location near Houhai. But most importantly, it has some of the most thoughtful, innovative cuisine in town. Go for a dinner you won't forget.

> 10.30am-midnight (dinner 6-10.30pm), closed Mondays; 45 Dongbuyuqiao Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区东不压桥胡同45号 (8408 5300)

Capital M ¥ (Contemporary Western) **

The Art Deco interior, swish staff and breathtaking views over the archery towers from Qianmen ensures the pinnacle of al-fresco dining, with world-class modern European stylings and deliciously posh afternoon tea.

> Daily 11.30am-10.30pm. Floor 3, 2 Qianmen Buxingjie, Dongcheng 东城区前门步行街2号3层 (6702 2727)

Héritage ¥¥

A French country-style chateau in the heart of Beijing. A chef de cuisine with Michelin star restaurant experience and an extensive wine cellar make this Sofitel Hotel restaurant one of the best French dining experiences in town.

> 6F Sofitel Wanda Beijing, Tower C, Wanda Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路93号万达广场C座索菲特酒店6层 (8599 6666)

Temple Restaurant Beijing (TRB) ¥¥ **

Setting is everything here, especially if it's fashioned inside a restored Buddhist temple. The bold contemporary European cuisine is fitting in majesty and the service alone is worthy of worship.

> Daily 11.30am-2.30pm, 6-10pm; 23 Songzhusi Temple, Shatan Beijie, Dongcheng 东城区沙滩北街嵩祝寺23号 (8400 2232)

Mio ¥¥

Glitzy Italian fare at the Four Seasons, with a mobile Bellini cart, wheeled straight to your table. The Chef crafts a superb squash tortellini by hand, and pampers diners with desserts like the deconstructed tiramisu.

> Daily lunch 11.30am - 2.30pm, dinner 5.30pm - 10.30pm, Four Seasons Hotel, 48 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang, 朝阳区亮马桥路48号北京四季酒店 (5695 8888)

Grange Grill **

Located in the Westin Beijing Chaoyang, Grange Grill serves up some of the city's best steak, seafood and grill offerings. The

OPEN DOOR



STEAK HOUSE

All's Well That Ends Wellington

Steak House does extravagance with class – dramatic lighting, spacious dining rooms with glimmering surfaces and premium cuts of steak. No one will judge you if your stomach rumbles audibly as an elegant plate of juicy, tender meat is set in front of you – the restaurant's M3 steak is high-quality beef, aged for 300 days, and yields to the knife like soft butter. Enjoy as rich, intense flavors dance on your palette and linger.

After all, dining is an experience at Steak House. And now, they've got another thing to save room for: a new beef wellington. In case you haven't been watching Gordon Ramsay on TV, allow us to explain: a beef wellington is a traditional British dish with a cut of meat and mushroom sauce encrusted in pastry. In a mouthful, you get crispy buttery pastry, earthy savory sauce and rich tender beef – and Steak House's version is a mouth-watering rendition.

So go ahead and take high expectations to your night at Steak House, in Sanlitun's Topwin Center. You won't be disappointed.

> Daily, 11am-10pm; 3-8 Topwin Mall, 1 Nan Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯南路 通盈1号3楼 3-8牛排家 (5780 9040)

OPEN DOOR



SINGAPORE SEAFOOD

Hey, Big Spender

Singapore Seafood is known for its creative take on Singaporean classics. And since the restaurant opened up a second location in the flashy China World Mall, there's plenty of opportunity to visit. Our favorites include the black pepper crab with fresh peppercorns, stir fried crab with salted egg yolk and curry leaves and white pepper crab with leek. If you're not feeling the crab, Singapore Seafood serves a tasty Hainanese chicken and a host of more eclectic dishes like the crispy egg-yolk fried fish skin and taro and chestnut paste dessert. What's more, Singapore Seafood is offering its customers a special deal from September through November: Spend RMB500 at either of the restaurant's two locations (Parkview Green and China World Mall) and receive a RMB120 voucher. Hit up either of the locations with a few friends and five pink bills will be gone before you can say 'Hokkien mee.'

> Singapore Seafood (see Listings for details)

restaurant's welcoming decor provides a relaxing atmosphere to enjoy a cocktail or a glass of fine vintage from the extensive wine collection. Be sure to try the 'luxurious oyster feast,' where you can enjoy the delicacy raw, grilled or with cheese.

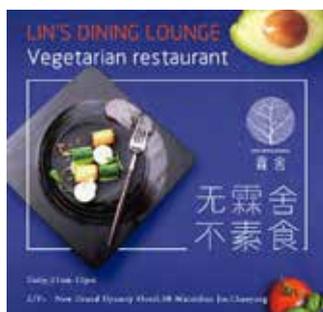
> Lunch: Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:30pm, Sat and Sun 11:30am-3pm; Dinner: Daily 5:30-10:30pm; The Westin Beijing Chaoyang 7 North East Third Ring Road, Chaoyang 东三环北路7号 (5922 8888)

Contemporary Western

Chi (Organic, Fusion)
Hutong set-menu dining par-excellence, with organic ingredients all locally sourced. From the owners of neighboring Saffron.

> Daily, opens 10:30am, last order 9:30pm, 67 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区五道营胡同 67号 (6445 7076)

Lin's Dining



> Daily 11am-10pm, 2/F, New Grand Dynasty Hotel, 58 Maizidian Jie, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街58号新大饭店二层 (6500 6766)

Fast (Food by East)

Bustling café with a philosophy of 'Simple things, done well.' International favorites, using fresh ingredients, cooked on the spot.

> Daily 6am-10:30pm, 2/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店2层 8414 9820

C Pearl (Oysters, Seafood) ¥*

This slick oyster restaurant imports fresh shells from Canada, South Africa, France,

USA and more – and they are well worth the price. The fries are the best we've had in Beijing, beer and wine selection also excellent.

> Tue-Sun 5:30pm-2am; 14-2, Bldg 14, Shunyuanli, Xinyuan Jie, Yansha Qiao, Chaoyang 朝阳区燕莎桥新源顺源里14号楼14-2号 (5724 5886)

Alfie's ¥ (British)

What's all this about, then? British gastropub classics, (like pukker fish and chips, RMB188), a swanky gentleman's club interior, and located in a chic modern art gallery-cum-mall. That's what, mate.

> Daily, 11:30am-2:30pm, 5:30-10pm, brunch served on weekends; Parkview Green, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号芳草绿地1-2 (5662 8777)

Bistrot B

Rosewood Beijing's exquisite French restaurant is the sort of place chefs like to eat. Expect lavish luxury.

> Daily, 11:30am-2:30pm and 5:30-10:30pm; 1F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Centre, Huijialou, Chaoyang 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店3层 (6536 0066)

Caribeño (Latin)

Heavy Cuban influence, but there are dishes from all over the Latin continent here. The Ropa Vieja (shredded beef on potato) is excellent – as are the Mojitos.

> Daily 11:30am-9:30pm, 1/F, China Overseas Plaza, 8 Guanghua Dongli, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华东里8号中海广场北楼1层 (5977 2789)

Grill 79 (Steak)

With views this good, Grill 79 would probably make it onto the list even if the food was terrible. It's something of a bonus then that the kitchen is superb, and supported by one of the most extensive wine lists in town.

> Daily 6:30-10:30am, noon-2pm, 6-10pm, 79/F, China World Trade Center Phase 3, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸大酒店79层 (6505 2299 ext 6424)

Miss K Cafe (Xing Fu Cafe)

Whether it's a rainy morning or a sunny afternoon, relax with your favorite novel and a cup of freshly brewed coffee. Experience a quiet moment of serenity amid the hustle and bustle of Beijing.

> Daily, 8am-8:30pm; 1/F, Tower A, East Gate Plaza, Dongzhimen, Dongcheng 东城区东直门东环广场A座一层幸福咖啡馆 (6418 1096)

JF Royal Teahouse

> Daily 10am-9:30pm; B215 China World Trade Center Tower 3, Jintong East Road, Chaoyang Beijing 北京市朝阳区国贸商城区域3 地下二层B215 (8535 1625)

Mosto (European, South American) ¥*

A perpetually busy lunch and evening spot, thanks to chef Daniel Urdaneta's skill for modernising South American-style dishes like ceviche and risotto in his open kitchen.

> Sun-Thu noon-2:30pm, 6-10pm; Fri-Sat noon-2:30pm, 6-10:30pm, 3/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园3层 (5208 6030)

Sizzler

Sizzler invented 'casual dining' in Australia when it introduced the first soup, salad, pasta and fresh fruit concept. Since those pioneering days, it has expanded its 'classic grill' to include, not only steak and seafood, but also delicious chicken dishes, BBQ ribs, combination meals and burgers. 'Variety' and 'freedom to choose' set Sizzler apart from other dining experiences. At Sizzler customers are free to control the volume, nutritional balance and variety of each meal by ordering from the grill and helping themselves to our famous soup, salad, pasta and fruits.

> All stores open daily, 10am-10pm; Wangfujing Oriental Plaza Store 王府井东方广场店 (8518 6315); Chongwenmen Glory Mall Store 崇文门国瑞购物中心店 (6714 0399); Wangjing Capital Mall 望京凯德购物中心店 (6471 3876); Wanliu BHG 万柳华联商场店 (8258 9405) Wan Shoulu Crystal Capital Mall 万寿路凯德晶品店 (6826 086); Xizhimen Capital Mall 西直门凯德购物中心店 (5830 2199); Sanlun Shimao Gongsan 三里屯世茂三店 (8400 4014); Changying Paradise Walk 常营龙湖天街店 (8539 0438); Tianjin Joy City 天津大悦城店 (8728 1620)

The English Tearoom英国茶房

> Daily 10am-9:30pm; 101, Bldg 10, North area of Xiangyun Town, 9 Antai Dajie, Shunyi 顺义区安泰大街9号院中粮祥云小镇北区10号楼101 (8047 9661) / 8047 9661; Daily 10am-7pm Creativity Garden, 1 Shunhuang Lu, Sunhe xiang, Chaoyang 朝阳区孙河乡顺黄路1号创意园内 (8459 4407)

Tomacado

Tomacado is indeed a mash-up of 'tomato' and 'avocado' – and while you'll certainly find these ingredients on the menu, you can also expect pleasant drinks, light soups and heartier main courses from this charming cafe. Fowers are also available for sale.

> Daily 10am-10pm (Lunch start from 11am, Only afternoon tea served on Mon-Fri 2:30-5pm), No. 19/20, B1/F, Jia Ming Center, 27 Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路27号嘉铭中心地下一层 19/20号 (6500 3354)

VIC

Not to be confused with the notorious nightclub of the same name, this VIC is the Sofitel Beijing's casual dining restaurant. All the major world cuisines are in attendance here – make sure you pay special attentions to the French-inspired breads and pastries – as is the customary Sunday champagne brunch.

> Sofitel Wanda Beijing, Tower C, Wanda Plaza, 93 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路93号万达广场C座索菲特酒店6层 (8599 6666)

Yi House (Contemporary Western)

Nestled in the confines of 798, Yi's great tasting brunch is bettered only by their wide range of cocktails. Sundays offer jazz brunches with lobster and champagne.

> Daily 11am-3pm, 6pm-12am; 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, 798 Yishu Qu, No.1 706 Houjie, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号院798艺术区706后街1号 (6436 1818)

Wood

> Daily 10:30am-11pm, Lakeside Gourmet Street, Solana, 6 Chaoyang Gongyuan Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区公园路6号蓝色港湾南边湖畔美食街 近南边地面停车场 5726 8255

Stuff'd (Contemporary Western)

The concept of Stuff'd is to simply stuff one kind of food in another. From sausage calzone pizzas (RMB68) to scotch eggs – it all works. On-site micro brewery a bonus.

> Wed-Mon, 11:30am-2:45pm, 6-10pm, 9 Jinchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区前门胡同9号 (6407 6308)

Café/Deli/Sandwich

Café Zarah (Café) *

A smart new interior and menu for this longstanding cafe has propelled it from hipster hangout to Gulou institution. Large, airy and with a terrace for summer, the only downside is it's always packed.

> Daily 9:30am-midnight, 42 Gulou Dongdajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街42号 (8403 9807)

Domain 域

A blend of café, business center and lounge, it has a gentle buzz all of its own. For privacy, Domain also provides workstations equipped with computers and ipads.

> Daily 7am-8pm, 2/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店2层 (8414 9830)

Café Flatwhite

Hailing from New Zealand, Café Flatwhite uses fresh and healthy ingredients in its tasty selection of sandwiches, pizzas, salads and brunch options, all served alongside some of the best coffee in Beijing.

> Open Daily, Mon-Fri 8am-9pm, Sat-Sun 9am-9pm; 798 Dashanzi Art District Store: D09-1, No.4, 798 Dashanzi Art District, Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号 798艺术区D09-1 (5978 9067 / 13051771436); Jianguomenwai Media Center Store: No.13 Bldg, Jianguomenwai DRC, 1 Xiushui Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水街1号建国门外外交公寓13号楼1层东北角 8532 2633; Jianguomenwai DRC Store: Building 7-1-11, 1 Silk Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水街1号建国门外外交公寓7-1-11 (8532 2633 / 18701092189); FFCStore: 107, B1/F, Fortune Financial Center, 5 Dongsanhuan Zhonglu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区东三环中路5号楼财富金融中心1层107 (6596 9108); China Central Mall Store: L315, China Central Mall, Chaoyang District 朝阳区华贸中心写字楼三层 L315单元 (8588 7978) www.cafeatwhite.com, cafeatwhite@hotmail.com, WeChat username: Cafe-Flatwhite

Awfully Chocolate



完美巧克力蛋糕的首选新加坡品牌。Born in Singapore, made by hand, using the finest ingredients.

> Daily 9am-10:30pm, 1) Sanlun: Opposite to BHG, B1/F, Southern area of Taikoo, Sanlun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里地下一层华联超市对面 (8468 3802); 2) Indigo: B1/F, Indigo Mall, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号颐景港地下一层 (8426 0917); 3) Joy City Chaoyang: 5/F Joy City Chaoyang, Qingnian Lu, Chaoyang Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区青年路朝阳大悦城5楼悦界区 (8582 2677); 4) Raffles City: B1/F, Raffles City, Dongzhimen, Dongcheng 东城区东直门来福士地下一层 (8409 8038)

Element Fresh (Contemporary Western)

Chain of restaurants and one of the longest running with quality ingredients and good service. One of the mainstays in Beijing.

> Daily Mon-Fri 10am-11pm, Sat-Sun 7am-11pm, 833, Building 8, 19 Sanlun Taikoo Li South, Sanlun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯太古里南区 8号楼833 (6417 1318)

Maan Coffee漫咖啡文化体验馆

> Daily 9am-20:00pm; The south gate of Jianguo Park, Half tower road, Chaoyang 朝阳区半截塔路将府公园南门西侧 (5949 8336)

MOKA Bros (Contemporary Western) *

Power bowls, salads and wraps are the kind of fare on offer at this trendy Nali Patio space, which also has a great selection of cakes and pastries if you're feeling more indulgent.

> Sanlun: Sun-Thu 11am-10:30pm, Fri/Sat 11am-11:30pm, B101B Nali Patio South, 81 Sanlun Beilu Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号B101B南楼 (5208 6079); Solana: Solana Lakeside Dining Street, 6 Chaoyang Park Road, Chaoyang 朝阳区湖岸美食街朝阳公园路6号院蓝色港湾 (5905 6259)

Ricci

Named after a 17th century Italian Jesuit (duh), this creative café has a funky, kooky-meets-organic vibe and serves up some of the best casual western food in town, and a great brunch at the Wudaokou location (Chaoyang branch closed weekends).

> 1/F, Building D, Tsinghua Science Park, 1 Zhongguancun Donglu, Haidian 海淀区中关村东路1号院清华科技园D座1楼 (8215 8826)

The Rug (Contemporary Western, Organic) *

With ingredients supplied by local organic farms like Dahe and De Run Wu, and an emphasis on sustainability, this café's wide ranging menu has something for everyone, especially green types, bored foreign moms and freelance Macbook types.

> Mon-Fri 7:30am-10:30pm, Sat/Sun 9:30am-10:30pm; Bldg 4, Lishui Jiayuan, Chaoyang Gongyuan Nanlu (opposite Chaoyang Park South Gate), Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园南路丽水嘉园4

号楼(朝阳公园南面对面) (8550 2722) > Additional location in Sanlitun Nan Jie (see online.thatsmags.com for details)

TRIBE *

Salads, wraps and sandwiches, and noodle and grain bowls are as tasty as they are holistic, and there are more superfoods in one single dish than we even knew existed. Come hungry, leave basking in the warm glow that comes from knowing that you are eating well. Kombucha is the icing on the (organic, locally-sourced) cake.

> Daily 8am-10.30pm, 1/F, Building 3, China View Plaza, 2A Gongti Dong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东路甲2号中国红大厦3号楼1层大厅入口南侧 (8587 1899)

Wagas (Contemporary Western)

Quality eats with minimal pretension. This stylish, no-fuss Shanghai rival to Element Fresh offers some of the best and most affordable Western lunch options in town. The zesty carrot-and-zucchini cake is a crowd pleaser.

> Daily 8am-10pm; 58-33, 3/F, Bldg 8, Taikoo Li South, 19 South Sanlitun Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯太古里南区三层 (6416 5829) > Additional locations in The Kerry Centre, Raffles Mall Dongzhimen (see www.thatsmags.com for details)

American/BBQ/Grill

Eudora Station 亿多瑞站

> (Near Lidu place) No. 6, Fangyuanli Chaoyang 朝阳区芳园西里6号(丽都广场对面) (6437 8331, 6437 8334)

Home Plate BBQ *

Scruffy looks and laid-back staff belie the popularity of this entry-level brick-smoker barbecue joint, that blossoms in the sunny months. Pulled-pork sandwiches are the favorites, followed by baby-back rib racks. Beer and bourbons are taken care of, too.

> Daily 11am-10pm. 35 Xiaoyun Lu courtyard (20m north of Xiaoyun Lu intersection, first right), Chaoyang District 朝阳区霄云路35号院过霄云路路口, 往北走20米, 到第一个路口右转(5128 5584) > Additional location in Sanlitun Nan Jie (see www.thatsmags.com for details)

NOLA

N'Orleans finds a dark-wood home in the leafy embassy area, with a jazz soundtrack, shrimp and grits, gumbo, fried chicken, jambalaya and decent-enough po'boys – yes'm. Excellent Cajun snacks, craft beers and cocktails also make NOLA a popular watering hole.

> Mon-Fri 8am-11pm, Sat-Sun 10.30am-11pm. 11A Xiushui Nanjiejie, Chaoyang 朝阳区秀水南街11号 (8563 6215)

The Big Smoke *

Taking the Home Plate BBQ concept and upscaling is a gourmet masterstroke. Full menu evenings only (also delivers rotisserie chicken via Uncle Otis).

> Daily Mon-Sat 11am-midnight, Sun 11am-10pm. First Floor, Lee World Building (opposite Frost Nails), 57 Xingfucun Zhong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福村中路57号楼利世楼 (6416 5195, 6416 268, www.uncle-otis.com)

The Woods *

New York native-owned, Manhattan-style restaurant, tucked in amongst the skyscrapers of CBD: you can't get more Big Apple than that.

> Daily 12pm-10pm, Central Park Tower 1, Suite 101, No. 6 Chaowai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新城国际1号楼101 (6533 6380)

Mexican/Tex Mex

Cantina Agave (Tex-Mex)

Great selection of burritos, tacos and 80+ imported tequilas. Spice up dishes with the walk-up salsa bar and don't leave without a bite of the custardy flan.

> Sun-Thurs 11am to midnight, Fri-Sat 11am to 2am, 54-32 South Block, Sanlitun Taikoo Li, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里太古里南区 (6416 5212)

Taco Bar

Rising from the ashes of its deceased hutong location, the new Taco Bar is hip, popular and able to produce some of the most authentic Mexican fare in town. Only RMB45 for three and great cocktails to complement.

> Tue-Thu 5.30pm-1am, Fri-Sat 5.30pm-2.30am, Sun 11am-1am; 1/F, Unit 10, Electrical Research Institute, Sanlitun Nan Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯南路机电研究院内10号1层 (6501 6026)

Palms L.A. Kitchen and Bar * (Korean-Mexican fusion)

Tucked away near Gulou, this hip little hutong concept is truly one of a kind in Beijing. Quesadillas with kimchi and bibimbaps with melted cheese and hot sauce. Guess what? It works. Killer range of classic

Cali* cocktails, too.

> Daily 11:30am-midnight (closed Mondays); 14 Zhangwang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区旧鼓楼大街张旺胡同14号 (6405 4352)

Q Mex Bar & Grill

> Sanlitun Courtyard (across from Salsa Caribe, nearby Bookworm), Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院机电研究院餐饮街内 6585 3828

Burgers

Blue Frog

Blue Frog is pleased to introduce a creative new Drinks Menu. As the new year begins, this new menu will wake up everyone's taste buds with a bevy of specialty and original cocktails, mocktails, shots, beer, wine and healthy drinks inspired by popular ingredients.

> All open Daily 10am-late; 52-30, Level 3, 52 Tower, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯太古里南区三楼52-30 (6417 4030); No.167, 1/F, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号1层167号 (8426 0017); No.125, 1/F, Bldg 1, Sanfeng(North), Chaoyang 朝阳区三丰北里1号楼1层125号 (8561 2665); Unit 15-16, 1/F, Bldg AB, Ocean International Center, 10 Jintong Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区金桐西路10号远洋光华国际中心AB座一层15 16单元 (8590 3168)

Steak

Morton's of Chicago (American) \$\$\$ *

Meat so tender the knife falls right off: ritzy Morton's deserves the worldwide praise. Expensive, but where else are you going to get steak this good? (Try the RMB550 set menu if you want to save cash) > Mon-Sat 5:30-11pm, Sun 5-10:30pm; 2/F, Regent Hotel, 99 Jinbao Jie, Dongcheng 东城区金宝街99号丽晶酒店二层 (6523 7777)

O'Steak

A well-cooked steak in Beijing isn't all that rare anymore, and here we have affordable but quality cuts. Don't be fooled by the Irish sounding name, it's an authentic French bistro – not a Guinness in sight.

> Daily midday-midnight, Xingfu: No.557 Xingfucun Zhonglu, opposite of April courtmet, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福村中路557杰作大厦底商绿叶叶子超市斜对面 (8448 8250); Central Park: No.0103 building 20, Central Park, No.6 Chaowai Avenue, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新城国际20号楼103 (6533 6599); Shunyi: No.11-102 Shine Hills, No.9 Antai Avenue, Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪安泰大街9号祥云小镇南门11号楼102 (8048 5080)

29 Grill (Contemporary Western) *

Top-notch steak, along with just about every other cut of meat found in the barnyard in this well-priced meat-eaters' mecca. > Mon-Fri lunch: 11.30am-2.30pm; Mon-Sat dinner: 6-10.30pm (closed Sundays); Conrad Beijing, 2/F, 29 North Dongsanhuan, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路9号2层 (6584 6270)

Italian

Annie's \$\$\$ *

Now a certified Beijing institution, Annie's serves up the city's most reliable Italian fare. Delivery is free anywhere between Line 5 and the Fifth Ring Road (call for delivery prices outside this area), and can be ordered in English between 10.30am and 10.30pm from www.annies.com.cn. Alternatively, drop in to your local branch.

> All open Daily 10.30am-11pm; Beijing Riviera: opposite west gate of Lane Bridge Villa, Shunyi 朝阳区来广营东路5号长岛湖桥别墅V101对面尚古城一楼 (8470 4768); Lido: Jiangtai Lu, opposite United Family Hospital 朝阳区将台商业街4号楼2楼和隆家医院对面 (6436 3735); Wangjing: 2F, beside the Daimler Tower, LSH Plaza, 8 Wangjing Jie 朝阳区利星行广场A座戴姆勒大厦裙楼2层近望京商业中心 (8476 0398); Chaoyang Park: West Gate of Chaoyang Park 朝阳区朝阳公园老西门南侧 (6591 1931); Sanlitun: China View Building, opposite East Gate of Workers' Stadium 朝阳区工体东门对面中国红街一楼 (8587 1469); Ritan Park: Ritan High Life, 3F, north of Ritan Park 朝阳区神路街39号日坛上街3-108号 (8569 3031); The Place: East of the Place, south of Central Park 朝阳区金桐西路10号远洋光华国际中心AB座1层 (8590 6428); Guomao: Ruisai Business Building (southeast of Guomao subway) 朝阳区东三环南路2号瑞赛大厦商务楼1层 (6568 5890); Sunshine 100: Guanghua Lu, opposite Sunshine 100 Building 朝阳区光华路阳光100公寓对面首经贸南门 (858 9366)

Assaggi \$\$\$ *

This fine Italian spot in the leafy embassy district has one of Beijing's best terraces for summer dining. The tagliata steak is worth a return visit.

> Daily 11:30am-2:30pm, 6pm-11:30pm. 1 Sanlitun Beixiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街1号 (8454 4508)

Bene \$\$\$ *

Chef Ricci will have you singing like a soprano with his pork ravioli and prize-winning tiramisù. Excellent set menus (RMB588) and extensive wine selection.

> Daily 11am-2.30pm, 5.30-10.30pm. Sheraton Beijing Dongcheng, 36 Northeast Third Ring Road, Dongcheng District 东城区北三环东路36号(5798 8995)

BOCCA DELLA VERITA\$

Good-value homestyle Italian is the order of the day at this little-known spot in Beixingjiao.

> Dinner: 5-10pm; Lunch: 10am-3pm; 3/F, 277 Dongzhimen Nei Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门内大街277号三楼 雍和宫大街和北新桥头条交叉处的四层商业楼三楼 (6455 3832, 1391 0969 240)

Cepe \$

In a city inundated with Italian offerings, Cepe manages to stand out thanks to its attention to the smallest detail – everything from the vinaigrette to the Parma ham is up to equal quality, and the wine is superb.

> Daily 11.30am-2.30pm, 6-10.30pm. The Ritz-Carlton Financial Street, 1 Jinchengfang Dongjie, Jinrong Jie, Xicheng 西城区金城坊东街1号北京金融街丽思卡尔顿酒店大堂 (6601 6666)

Florentina 翡冷翠意大利餐厅

Florentina serves authentic Italian fare in low-key, yet elegant surrounds. Cuisine is high-end, the environment is relaxed. A beautiful outdoor terrace makes this place a godsend for Lido residents.

> Daily 11-late (Kitchen serves until 10pm), 1/F, Bldg 2, No. 6 Yard, Fangyuan Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区芳园西路6号院2号楼1层(8431 0027)

Mercante \$\$\$ *

Old World family charm in an intimate hutong setting. Time (and, occasionally, service) slows with a rustic menu from Bologna offering an assortment of homemade pastas and seasonal mains.

> Tue-Sun 6-10.30pm, 4 Fangzhuanchang Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区方砖厂胡同4号 (8402 5098)

Tiago Home Kitchen

Even the most exacting palettes are delighted by TIAGO, whose team prepares globally sourced ingredients and sustainably grown produce. TIAGO's dining experience is distinctly Italian, but its menu also offers such classics as Australian steaks and Boston lobster – plus a wide selection of salads, pizza, pasta and desserts.

> Indigo: Daily 11.30am-10pm, Shop L173, Indigo Mall, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号颐堤港购物中心L173商铺(6438 8772); Chaoyang Joy City: Daily 11am-10pm, 5:50/6F, Chaoyang Joy City, 101 Chaoyang Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳北路101号朝阳大悦城5F06/6F(8558 3892)

Opera Bombana \$

Head chef Umberto Bombana boasts three Michelin stars to his name, earned at his wildly successful Hong Kong restaurant Otto e Mezzo. He's the only Italian chef to do so outside of his native land, and certainly the only to have opened a restaurant in Beijing.

> Daily, 12pm-10:30pm; LG2-21 Parkview Green Fangcaodi, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号侨福芳草地下2层21号 (5690 7177)

Pizza

La Pizza

Along the upper echelons of Beijing pizzerias is this Sanlitun goldfish bowl with a wood-fired oven and Neapolitan manners. Further branches in Solana and pasta/salad/mains-buffet restaurant in Sanlitun 3.3

> Sanlitun Branch: daily 10.30am-3pm, 6-11pm. 1/F, 3.3 Mall, 33 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路33号3.3服装大厦西北角底商(5136 5582); Solana Branch: 3A-48, 1/F, Bldg 3, Solana, 6 Chaoyang Park Road, Chaoyang 朝阳公园西路6号蓝色港湾3号1层 5A-48 (5905 6106) > SOHU Shangdu Branch: SH1112, SOHO Shangdu, 8 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区东大桥路8号SOHO尚都 SH1112号(5900 3112); La Pizza Buffet: 4F, Sanlitun 3.3 Mall, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯3.3服装大厦4层 (5136 5990)

Tube Station

Nowhere does gigantic toppen-laden pizza quite like Beijing, and these guys claim to be the biggest in town.

> Sanlitun 3.3 Branch: Mon-Fri 10am-10pm, Sat/Sun 10am-11pm, delivery Mon-Thu 11:30am-10:30pm, Fri-Sun 11:30am-11pm 3/F, 3.3 Building, No. 33 Sanlitun Beijie, Chaoyang 三里屯北街33号3.3服装大厦3层3008号 (5136 5571, delivery 8989 177) > Additional branches in Congti, Beida, Beita, Yayancon, Solana and Weigongcun, see www.on-line.thatsmags.com for details

German

Drei Kronen 1308 *

Authentic (truly – when they say 1308 they mean it) displays of armour and brewing kits draw regular evening crowds for the superb pork knuckle and heavy-duty helles (pale lager), wheat and dark beer (brewed on-site).

> Daily 11am-2am. 1/F, Bldg 5, China View, Gongti Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体东路中国红街5号楼1层 (6503 5555)

Hacker-Pschorr Brauhaus

If you're looking for authentic German

fare and, most importantly, German-style beer, then you can't go wrong with Hacker-Pschorr Brauhaus. Made from centuries-old recipes – and in accordance with the 1516 German Beer Purity Law – the brews here are some of the finest in Beijing. Prost! > Room 3, Building 3, No. 12, Xindonglu Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路12号院3号楼3门(5323 3399)

Paulaner Brauhaus

The grand old man of Beijing brauhauses, Paulaner delivers the Teutonic goods in the hands of lederhosen-clad staff from the provinces. It can be pricey but is usually worthwhile, especially during Oktoberfest. > Daily 11am-1am. Kempinski Hotel, 50 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路50号凯宾斯基饭店 (6465 3388 ext. 5732)

Brotzeit German Bier Bar & Restaurant

博琛德国啤酒餐厅 Brotzeit offers its customers a unique experience with authentic German cuisine and world famous German beers in a casual environment. Coupled with its contemporary setting and unique brand appeal, Brotzeit is distinct from the traditional-style German restaurants still seen in Germany and other parts of the world.

> Daily 11am-late; F109, Grand Summit, bldg 5, 19 Dongfang Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东方东路19号楼(DRC外交办公大楼)一层F109 (8531 5166, www.brotzeit.co)

Spanish

Agua \$\$\$ *

Occupying the high end of Nali's Spanish invasion, Agua excels with reasonably priced classics like suckling pig, chorizo and jamon. Winner of the 2014 Golden Fork Editors' Pick for best restaurant.

> Daily Midday-2pm, 6pm-10pm. 4/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园 (5208 6188)

Casa Talia by Tiago

> Daily 11.30am-9pm, 01B, 4/F, Raffles City, 1 Dongzhimen Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门南大街1号来福士购物中心4层01B 8409 4009

Niajo \$\$\$ *

With highly Mediterranean influences and a charming management, Niajo is prime Sanlitun smart-casual dining. Order the paella (their star dish) together with some tapas and be automatically transported to Spain (minus the constant sunshine).

> Daily noon-10.30pm. 3/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园3层 (5208 6052)

Migas \$\$\$ *

The boys at Migas have turned a concept bar into a thriving Mediterranean restaurant, bar and party venue, and one of summer's rooftop destinations.

> Daily 10am-3pm, 5pm-late. 6/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号那里花园6层 (5208 6061)

Asian

Indian

Indian Kitchen

The go to curry house among Beijing's homesick Indian community, this ever popular non-nonsense restaurant has built up a solid reputation thanks to its wide range of quality dishes and particularly friendly service. Looking good after a recent renovation and very available on JinShiSong online delivery.

> Daily 11am-2:30pm, 5:30-11pm, 2/F 2 Sanlitun Beixiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街2号2楼 (6462 7255)

Raj

Tucked away in musty old building just underneath the drum tower, this curryhouse may look Chinese but everything on the menu is authentic Indian, especially the rather fine naan.

> Daily 11am-2pm, 5pm-11pm, 31 Gulou Xidajie Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼西大街31号 (6401 1675)

Ganges

Conveniently located above popular Irish sports bar Paddy O'Sheas, this solid Indian curry house provides the perfect post-match culinary accompaniment. Or put another way: it's what you'll be craving after eight pints of beer.

> Daily 11am to 10.30pm; Dongzhimen Branch: 27, 28 Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区东直门外大街28号2层 (6417-0900) > Additional branch in Sanlitun, see online.thatsmags.com for details.

Japanese

HAGAKI 叶书 *

Serves up a selection of signature maki rolls, as well as classics like tonkatsu, tempura and udon, Hagaki specializes in Californian-inspired Japanese cuisine and has a lively sushi bar.

> Daily 11am-2.30pm, 1/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店1层 8414 9815

Hatsune ¥ * (California Japanese)

As much a California roll joint as true Japanese, Hatsune is now an old favorite among the sake-swilling, sushi-swallowing set, though less so among sashimi purists.

> Daily 11.30am-2pm, 5.30-10pm; 2/F, Heqiao Bldg C, 8A Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路甲8号

和芥大厦C座2层 (6581 3939) > Additional locations in Sanlitun Tai Koo Li South; Kerry Centre Mall (see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

Inagiku *

This Beijing branch of one of Tokyo's oldest and most celebrated restaurants is as near to perfection as you're likely to find. Deceptively simple yet finely crafted, the handmade Inaniwa udon (RMB80) is not to be missed.

> Daily 11am-3pm, 6-10.30pm; Rm 315, 3/F, Park Life, Yintai Centre, 2 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街2号银泰中心悦生活3层315室 (8517 2838)

Sake Manzo *

The barmen here are serious about their sake. Boasting one of the best stocked drinks cabinets in town with over 60 different sakes on offer, this super-cool little eatery is the perfect place to unwind after a hard day's toil. The sashimi is fresh to the cut, and the beer-marinated chicken is out of this world. One of the very best and least appreciated restaurants in town.

> Daily 6pm-midnight, 7A Tuanjieshu Beisiantiao, Chaoyang 朝阳区团结湖北三条甲7号 (6436 1608)

Saveurs de Coree

This upmarket Korean bistro has undergone several changes in recent years, not least its move away from the hipper-than-thou confines of Nanluoguxiang. Fortunately, the menu remains largely intact. The Shin Ramyun is among the best in Beijing, while the Wagyu barbecued beef is almost too good to be true.

> Daily noon-11pm; 128-1 Xiang'er Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区香饵胡同128-1号 (5741 5753)

Yotsuba **

It doesn't come cheap (tasting menu RMB1,000), but what would you expect from some of the best sushi in town? Buttery and meaty fatty tuna sashimi is a cut above.

> Dongcheng: Tue-Sun 11.30am-11pm. Sanlitun branch: 2 Sanlitun Bei Xiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街2号 (6464 2365); Lido branch: 2F, No.9-3, Jiangtai Xilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台西路9-3号2层 (8420 0998)

Sui Ka

Is this what after-work hangouts are like in Japan? We're not sure, but we hope so: This charming izakaya nails it when it comes to sake selection and fried delights to munch alongside it.

> Daily 5pm-1am, Ichibangai First Avenue Food Court, Zaoying Nanli, Maizidian, East 3rd Ring Road, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环农展馆北路宾都苑东侧一层底商一番街内 (137 1692 7543)

Korean

Ai Jiang Shan

This upscale seafood restaurant proves that charrigil and composure can go together. Their RMB58 bibimbap lunch is an absolute bargain.

> Daily 11am-10pm, Sat and Sun until 9.30pm; 5/F, LG Twin Towers (East Tower), 12 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街乙2号双子座大厦东塔5层 (5109 6036/6037) see www.thatsmags.com for other locations)

South-East Asian

4Corners (Vietnamese, Fusion)

The definitive hutong bar/restaurant? Chef

Jun Trinh took a break from his celebrity TV work to host this part-Vietnamese venue, serving up steaming bowls of pho with zesty, fresh rolls, as well as a great bar, with frequent live indie performances.

> Tue-Sun 11am-2am, 27 Dashibei Hutong (near west end of Yandai Xiejie), Xicheng 西城区大石胡同27号烟袋斜街西口附近 (6401 7797)

Cafe Sambal (Malaysian)

When it comes to Malay-style food in a hutong, nowhere does it better. Admittedly, it's something of a niche category, but then so is the food on offer. The spicy Kapitani-style chicken is pricey, but worth it.

> Daily 11am-midnight, 43 Doufuchi Hutong (just east of Jiugulou Dajie), Xicheng 西城区豆腐池胡同43号旧鼓楼大街往东走 (6400 4875)

Purple Haze (Thai)

Given Beijing's lack of white sand beaches and backpacker bars, Purple Haze has to make do for the best Thai experience in town. Has all the classics like veggie spring rolls (RMB40), papaya salad (RMB46) and curries (RMB44-180) – but our pick's the seafood pad Thai (RMB45).

> Daily 11am-11pm, 55 Xingfu Yicun, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福一村55号 (6413 0899)

Greyhound Café (Modern Thai/Fusion)

Greyhound Café originated in Bangkok offering Thai food with a twist and served in a fashionable surrounds. Perfect for Taikoo Li Sanlitun then.

> Daily 11am-11pm, 51-30B, Building 1, Sanlitun Road 19, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路19号1号楼 51-30B (6416 3439) > Additional branch in Shin Kong Place (see online.thatsmags.com for details)

Nyonya Kitchen (Malaysian, Nyonya)

This chain specializes in Nyonya style cooking – ostensibly Malaysian but with a mix of Chinese, South-East Asian and European influences resulting in lots of bold flavors and bright colors. The interiors are just as loud as the flavors – this place is colorful – and we love it. Nyonya goes beyond the requisite laksa and satay.

> CBD: E8105, B1/F, China World Mall Phase 1, 1 Jianguomenwai, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城一期地下一层E8105 (6505 0376)

Malacca Legend

Malaysian food with a view, this spacious and airy restaurant sits on the banks of Shunyi's Roma Lake and at a new unit in the heart of the city at The Place, making a great spot for their beef rendang or green curry pawns.

> Daily 11am-10pm; 6 Roma Lake: 6 Luodong Lu, Luogezhuang Village, Hoshayou Town, Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪镇罗各庄村罗玛湖东北三路6号院 (8049 8902); Signature: Shop L203, 2/F, The Place, 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路9号世贸广场2层L203 (6587 1393)

Makan Kitchen

A unique restaurant offering varied South-east Asian flavors and Chinese cuisines. Tuck into a buffet featuring regional Asian stations, a dedicated fresh juice bar and live stations to whet your appetite. With a beautiful private dining room for functions or meetings in comfort and style, Makan Kitchen is the perfect venue for a relaxing get-together or a delightful weekend brunch.

> Mon-Fri, Breakfast: 6-10am, Lunch: 11.30am-2.30pm, Dinner: 6-10pm; Sat-Sun, Breakfast: 6-11am, Lunch: 12-2.30pm, Dinner: 6-10pm, 2/F, Main Tower, Hilton Hotel, 1 Dongfang Lu, Dongsanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路东方路1号北京希尔顿酒店2层 (5865 5020)

Singapore Seafood

> China World Shopping Mall Branch: Daily 11am-10pm, NL4010, North Area of China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区NL4010 (8595 0251/8595 0361); Parview Green Branch: Daily 11am-10.30pm, 1/F, Tower C, Parkview Green, 9 Dongdaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东大桥路9号侨福芳草地购物中心C座1层(东大桥地铁站) (8518 8811)

Susu (Vietnamese)

The first step is finding it. Follow that up with a dreamlike renovated courtyard, extensive wine list and a listing of top-notch Vietnamese curries, banh mi sandwiches, stews, soups and la Vong fish.

> Tue-Sun 11.30am-11pm; 10 Qianliang Hutong Xixiang, Dongcheng 东城区钱粮胡同西巷10号 (8400 2699)

Vegetarian

Lotus 莲花空间

> China World Shopping Mall Branch: NL4006, North Area of China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区NL4006 (8527 4868); Financial Street Branch: Daily 11am-9pm, L220, 2/F, Seasons Place Mall, 2 Jinchengfang Jie, Xicheng 西城区金城坊街2号金融街购物中心2层东侧L220 (6622 0515)

Tianchu Maoxing (Asian)

Like many arrivals to Beijing, this place started out in Wudaokou and it's since made a successful migration to Chaoyang. Great range of veggie fare, reasonably priced and they offer cooking classes as well.

> Daily 10am-10pm; 19 Rm 0260, 2/F, Bldg D, Chaowai SOHO, 6B Chaoyangmenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区门外大街乙6朝外SOHO座2060 (5900 1288)(see www.online.thatsmags.com for details)

Veggie Table (Western, Asian) *

Proving that Beijing-style vegetarian cuisine is by no means the exclusive preserve of Buddhist monks and sippy Jack Johnson fans, this superbly honed eatery offers some of the very best sandwiches – vegetarian or otherwise – found anywhere in the city.

> Daily 10.30am-11.30pm (last order 10.30pm); 19 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区五道营胡同19号 (6446 2073)

BARS

TOP 40 BARS AND CLUBS

About This guide represents our editors' top 40 picks, and includes some *That's Beijing* advertisers. Bars rated(*) have been personally reviewed by our experts, and scored according to the cuisine, experience and affordability.

Arrow Factory

The newest craft beer taproom on the block, Arrow Factory is a rustic hideaway brimming with good Anglo-Scandinavian vibes (courtesy of the brew-masters) and the brand's distinctive Chinese brewed ales. A winning combination

> 38 Jianchang Hutong, Dongcheng District 东城区箭厂胡同38号 (6407 6308)

8-Bit

Drinking alongside multiplayer retro gaming – why didn't anyone do this sooner? Megadrive, Super Nintendo, N64... some real gems make up an ever-growing collection. Draft Kirin goes for a reasonable RMB25 a glass.

> Daily 1pm-2am; 13 Beiliuoguxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷13号 (159 1025 6538)

BBC (Bottle, Boot & Cigar)

The brainchild of local spirits professional Douglas Williams, this bar provides the discerning Beijing drinker with a peerless selection of liquor for sale, cocktails and coming soon, shoe shines, cigars and straight-razor shaves.

> 1pm-late, 1 Taipingzhuang Nanli (At Xingfucun, between Frost: Coffee, Nails & Cocktails and Commix Bar), Chaoyang 朝阳区太平庄南里1号 (1861 405 7407, www.bbcbeijing.com)

Capital Spirits

A team of non-China natives doing a bajju bar? Brave and, luckily, brilliant. Lovely hutong setting, friendly owners and great bottle collection.

> Tue-Sun 8pm-late; 3 Da Ju Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区大菊胡同3号 (6409 3319; www.capitalspirits.com)

China Bar ¥¥

Top views from the 65th floor and flash drinks are the attractions on offer at this hip hotel bar.

> Sun-Thu 5pm-1am, Fri-Sat 5pm-2am. 65/F, Park Hyatt, 2 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街2号柏悦酒店65层 (8567 1838/40)

Daily Routine 日常生活

This cozy bar is a diamond in the rough. Owner Travis is a cocktail aficionado, and the drinks at this establishment change seasonally according to ingredient availability. Light cafe fare is available during the day.

> Daily 11am-11pm. 34 Wudaoying Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区五道营胡同34号 (8400 1159)

El Nido *

The first hutong hang-out to patent the fridge-full-of-cheap-imports formula, El Nido inspires a loyal following, particularly in summer. The roast leg of mutton place next door is one of the best locally.

> Daily 6pm-late, 59 Fangjia Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区方家胡同50号 (158 1038 2089)

Great Leap Brewing 大跃啤酒 ¥ *

The bar that began the whole Beijing microbrewing frenzy (yes, frenzy) specializes in idiosyncratic, local-style brews (RMB25-40) with intriguing flavors – their Sichuan peppercorn ale was memorably good. Reservations used to be recommended for their original hutong brewhouse, but the opening of a wildly popular new pub on Xinzhong Lu has shifted most drinkers there instead.

> Gulou: 5pm-late, Tue-Fri, 2pm-late Sat-Sun 2-10pm, 6 Douliujia Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区豆角胡同6号 (5717 1399); Sanlitun: Daily 11.30am-2pm; Sun-Thu 5pm-midnight, Fri/Sat 5pm-1am, B12 Xinzhong Street 新中街乙12号 (6416 6887, www.greatleap-brewing.com)

First Floor

First Floor is like that friend who's too popular to properly enjoy their company. At weekends, it gets aggressively full, with regulars and the passing tourist trade all baying at the bar. A good place to meet new friends, perhaps.

> Daily, 4pm-late, Sanlitun Beixiaojie, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯北小街 (6413 0587, first.floorbeijing.com)

Heaven Supermarket

A purgatory of bottles, bongos and bedraggled English teachers, Heaven sells the cheapest alcoholic takeaways in town. You can also hang around and appreciate the afterlife (clientele) if you want. Caveat: the food is straight from Hell's own kitchen.

> Daily 11-4am. 14 Xindong Lu (next to The James Joyce), Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路14号 (6415 6513)

Hidden Lounge *

Although frustrating to find, Hidden Lounge rewards the intrepid with good art and comfortable seating, suggesting a Kasbah, plus well-made drinks at great prices (wine from RMB100 a bottle, mix drinks from RMB25). You'll probably have to call them to find it, though.

> Daily 6pm-1am. Room 101, Bldg 8, CBD Apartments, Shuanghuyuan Nanli Erqu, Chaoyang 朝阳区双花园南里二区CBD公寓8号楼101室 (8772 1613)

Jane's & Hooch ¥ *

Acclaimed by some foreign press as one of the best bars in the world (cough), this not-so-plain Jane has been at the vanguard of the South Sanlitun gentrification. It serves RMB60-80 measures of your favorite Prohibition-era hooches in a fanstastic speakeasy atmosphere, with attentive staff and unimpeachable cocktails.

> Daily 8pm-2am, Courtyard 4 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (1603 2757)

Jing-A Taproom **

In just a few years, these guys developed from shady guerrilla brewers to upstanding publicans with their own range of souvenir T-shirts. Their bar is a peach: a bricks-and-mortar taproom, which is large, warm and sociable, and has up to 16 different beers on tap.

> Building 8, 1949 The Hidden City, Courtyard 4, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院

Mao Mao Chong **

The cocktails at Mao's – such as their sublime 'Mala' Mule, a Sichuan peppercorn-infused vodka drink that's a long way from Moscow – are unique infusions using local ingredients and know-how. Grungey without being grimey, Mao's eschews flash while still keeping it real. And those pizzas.

> 12 Banchang Hutong, Jiaodaokou, Dongcheng 东城区交道口南大街板厂胡同12号 (6405 5718, www.maomaochongbeijing.com)

Mesh ¥

Whether it's an early evening cocktail or a late-night infusion, Mesh's moody interior and underground soundtrack draws the bright young things (and on LGBT Thursdays, quite a few old things, too).

> Daily 5pm-1am. Building 1, 11 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路11号院1号楼 (6417 6688)

Maggie's ¥

A notorious sausage fest (we refer, of course, to the hot-dog stand outside), Maggie's has been providing its special comforts for so long, it's practically a time-honored Beijing brand – although it's also a bastion of Mongolian culture.

> Sun-Thur 8pm-4am, Fri-Sat 8pm-5am, Ritan Park South Gate, Chaoyang District 朝阳区日坛公园南门 (8562 8142)

Parlor

Learn a few quotes from *Gatsby* before heading to this 20s Shanghai-style speakeasy and you'll fit right in.

> Daily 6pm-2am. 39-8 Xingfuercun, Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路幸福二村39-8 (8444 4135)

Mai Bar *

Understated hutong hideaway with a long list of some of the best cocktails in town.

> Daily 5pm-late, 40 Beiliuoguxiang, Dongcheng 东城区北锣鼓巷40号 (6406 1871)

Revolution *

Sanlitun doesn't really do hipster bars but if it did, this cramped ode to Maomaraibilia would be it. The East may be red but their cocktails (RMB45) are fit for a Chairman.

> Daily, 12pm-late, west of Yashow, Gongti Bei Lu, 朝

阳区工体北路雅秀市场西侧 (6415 8776)

The Brick

A Cheers-style atmosphere ensures you'll find this neighbourhood drinking hole-in-the-brick-wall faux dive bar either cliquy or inclusive. The heavy-duty cocktails (including the devastatingly boozy RMB80 Terminator) are probably needed for the bizarre Wednesday pub quiz.

> Daily 4pm-late. Unit 2-11, Bldg 2, Tianzhi Jiaozhi, 31 Guanggu Lu (northeast corner of Shuangjing Qiao), Chaoyang 朝阳区双井桥东北角广渠路31号院天之骄子2号楼底商2-11 (134 2616 6677)

The Irish Volunteer

Everything – from the red-faced owner to the grub – is authentically Irish: tinged with alcoholism, doggerel and drunken regret. A good place to down a pint and a pizza before heading into town, then.

> Daily 9pm-2am. 311 Jiangtai Lu (opposite Lido Hotel East Gate), Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路311号 (6438 5581)

The Tree

A cozy stalwart of the Beijing bar scene, you'll find wood-fired comfort pizza, beer aplenty and a hearty, mature atmosphere. Has two neighborhood offshoots: By the Tree (brickwork, pool, old man's pub) and Nearby the Tree (live music, two floors).

> Daily noon-2am. 100m west of Sanlitun Bar Street, Youyi Youth Hostel, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯酒吧街往西100米友谊旅馆后面三里屯医院东面 (6415 1954)

Slow Boat Brewery Taproom **

This popular microbrewery has its own pub hidden away in Dongcheng's hutongs. Quality ales that change depending on the season, heated floors and a great little kitchen round out the deal.

> Mon Closed, Tues-Wed: 5pm-midnight, Thu 5pm-1am, Fri 5pm-late, Sat 2pm-late, Sun 2-10pm; 56 Dongsi Bathao, Dongcheng 东城区东四八条56号 (6538 5537)

Glen ✂

Experiences can vary at Glen (we've endured poor service and drinks that are scandalous at the price), which is located in a decidedly downbeat compound. But whiskey lovers have been known to swear by its selections and dark, intimate atmosphere. See for yourself.

> Daily 6:30pm-2am. 203, 2/F, Taiyue Suites Hotel Beijing, 16 Nansanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区南三里屯路16号泰悦豪庭2楼203室 (6591 1191)

Glen Classic ✂

Tucked away in the grounds of Face hotel, Glen Classic is a Japanese-owned whisky bar where discerning drinkers can sink into an arm-chair, glass in hand, and while away the hours. Huge range of whiskies and rums are personally selected by expert owner Daiki Kanetaka – let him recommend you something special.

> Mon-Sat, 7pm-2am, reservation required, minimum spend RMB200, Face Hotel Courtyard, 26 Dongcaoyuan, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体南路东草园26号 (6551 6788)

Trouble Bar

Beijing's leading venue for imported craft beers. Stocks a large draft selection and an even larger selection of bottles. Also does a nice line in creative cocktails, if brews aren't your thing. Conveniently located next to Gung-Ho, hosts a full-sized foos-ball table, darts, and plenty of TV's to accommodate any event, meetings, and gatherings.

> 2-101, China View Building, 2B Gongti Donglu, Chaoyang (Next To Gung-Ho) 朝阳区工人体育场东路2号中国红街2-101叫板比萨隔壁 (8590 0390, troublebar@gmail.com, www.trouble.bar)

10 Best Livehouses

Dusk Dawn Club (DDC) 黄昏黎明俱乐部

Great little livehouse near Meishuguan with a focus on jazz, folk and indie rock. Craft beer and whiskey means you won't get bored of the drinks list quickly.

> Tue-Sun 1pm-2am; 14 Shanlao Hutong, Dongcheng 东城区美术馆后街山老胡同14号 (6407 8969)

School Bar 学校酒吧 *

Crap drinks and regular, unscheduled fights: no wonder the cool kids adore this alternative livehouse/DJ bar, founded by Beijing and Shanghai rock n' rollers.

> Daily 8pm-late. 53 Wudaoying Hutong, Chaoyang 朝阳区五道营胡同53号 (6402 8881, 6406 9947)

Jianghu 江湖酒吧

This former Qing Dynasty courtyard home is exactly where you'd take that friend from out of town to prove you're cool. Its cozy atmosphere is also its downfall – any show with under 40 people and you're stuck looking through the windows. Hip and

casually familiar, the jazz and folk bookings keep things low-key enough for the get-home-for-the-babysitter crowd.

> 7 Dongmianhua Hutong, Jiaodaokou Nan Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区交道口南大街东棉花胡同7号 (6401 5269, site.douban.com/jianghujubar, jincanzh@gmail.com)

Hot Cat Club 热力猫

A true stalwart of the Beijing scene, Hot Cat is the type of hard-working venue that helps cement a city's music scene.

> Daily 10am-late, 46 Fangjia Hutong (just south of Guozhijian Jie), Dongcheng 东城区方家胡同46号 (6400 7868)

The Post Mountain 后山

Built into a man-made hill in the center of the MOMA Complex, this new addition to Beijing's growing livehouse empire is The Hobbit meets Manhattan. With as much vibe as a sterile modern-art gallery. Its imported sound system and ramped floor makes for decent sound and sightlines.

> Bldg T8, MOMA, 1 Xiangheyuan Lu, Dongzhimenwai, Dongcheng (next to MOMA Cinematheque) 东城区东直门外香河园路1号当代MOMA园区T8楼北百老汇电影中心北侧 (8400 4774)

Temple 坛 *

Probably the manliest venue in town, this dimly lit and unventilated space is owned by rockers (Gao Xu, Gao Jian and Clement Burger) and known for late sets of hard rock, punk and ska, with weekend gigs and DJ sets every fortnight. It offers a long drinks menu, with plenty of cheap pastis and shooters, but you'll probably stick to the RMB15 draught.

> Daily, 7pm-late. Bldg B, 206 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街206号B楼202 (131 6107 0713)

Yugong Yishan 愚公移山 *

We've lost more body weight than we'd care to remember in YY's mosh pit. Fortunately, almost all the acts – usually hip-hop DJs, emo rocks and obscure indie outfits from across the globe – were worth it. The upstairs bar area is a refuge from the sweat glands below.

> Daily 7pm-late. 3-2 Zhangzhizhong Lu (100m west of Zhangzhizhong Lu subway station), Dongcheng 东城区张自忠路3-2号 (6404 2711)

Sports Bars

The Local *

Formerly Brussels, this beery bar has come into its own, with large (yet strangely unobtrusive) screenings of sports and political events, a pub quiz, quality fare and a nice selection of draughts and cocktails. Try the Bourbon Street Ice Tea – you won't need another.

> Daily 11-2am. 4 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路4号院 (6591 9525)

Paddy O'Shea's *

An entire Irish-themed pub, which could easily be transposed, untouched, from a back alley in Limerick and gently deposited in central Beijing. With plenty going on, including pub quiz and sports.

> Dongzhimen: Daily 10am-late, 28 Dongzhimenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区东直门外大街28号 (6592 6290); Sanlitun: 2/F, Tongli Studio, Sanlitun Back Street 三里屯北路43号向里二层 (6415 0299)

V Sports

Spacious, comfortable, huge screens and no rowdy drunken cretins, V Sports makes a claim for the champion of Beijing sports bars.

> Daily 5:30pm-6am, Gongti North Gate East side, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北门外东侧 (5293 0333)

Nightclubs

Chocolate

It's impossible to discuss Chocolate without mentioning gold leaf, dwarves, cabaret dancers and oddly-friendly Russian women. Tamed right, a visit can be raucous fun, with bottles of spirits from around RMB200, cocktails under RMB50 (including the absinthe-based Flaming Armageddon) and regular floor shows.

> Daily 7pm-6am. 19 Ritan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区日坛北路19号 (8561 3988)

Dada *

It hasn't been on the Beijing scene for too long, but already Dada is the hippest hangout in town. Their cosy Gulou confines under rock house Temple offer an intimate place to nod along to an eclectic range of all things electro from the best names on the underground scene.

> Daily 9pm-late, Rm 101, Bldg B, 206 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区鼓楼东大街206号B栋101室 (183 1108 0818)

Lantern *

Founded by now-defunct Acupuncture Records, Lantern is a beacon of light in the

strip of truly ghastly nightclubs and bars known as 'Gongti.' Serious about its music, it also makes good drinks and attracts international electronic DJs.

> Thurs-Sat 9pm-6:30am. 100m north of Worker's Stadium West Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场西门外向北100米 (139 119 77989)

MIX

A bit like a trip to the Forbidden City, Mix is one of those places in Beijing you have to experience before you leave. Not much is forbidden in this underground hip-hop disco palace and if you don't leave with hook-up in tow then you're doing something very wrong.

> Daily 8pm-6am, Inside Worker's Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门外内 (6506 9888, 6530 2889, 150 1138 2219, mixclub@sohu.com)

The Bar at Migas *

A place to dance and prowl, perhaps, rather than a drinks destination, TBAM, as no one calls it, focuses on upscale local DJs to get the party started. Good-enough cocktails range from RMB5-70 but mostly it's about the music, man.

> Sunday to Wednesday 6pm-2am, Thursday to Friday 6pm-late. 6/F, Nali Patio, 81 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路81号 (5208-6061)

Vics

Separated at birth from its identical twin brother, Mix, this is the definition of Gongti sweatbox meat-market chic at its very finest. The Russians love it – as do moody Russians and jailbait students – helping Vics to become one of the most infamous clubs in the capital.

> Daily 8:30pm late, Inside Worker's Stadium North Gate, Chaoyang 朝阳区工人体育场北门外内 (5293 0333)

Hotel Bars

Atmosphere ✂✂

Beijing's highest bar, on the 80th floor of the 1,082-ft China World Tower, offers 300+ swanky cocktails from RMB65 with 360-degree views of the 700AQI PM2.5.

> Mon-Fri noon-2am, Sat and Sun noon-4am. 80/F, China World Summit Wing, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号北京国贸大酒店80 (6505 2299 ext. 6433)

Centro ✂

Although it's no longer quite the go-to place for beautiful people it once was, Centro still draws a cute crowd with its nightly jazz performances, spacious and recently renovated lounge areas and classic drinks like the blue-cheese martini.

> Open 24 hours. 3/F, Kerry Hotel, 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号北京嘉里大饭店1层 (6561 8833)

MEI

One of the livelier hotel bars in town, MEI has a nightly band, serves creatively delicious cocktails and overlooks the CCTV 'trousers.' Don't leave without trying the frightfully delicious Panjiayuan Bramble. Mon-Wed 6pm-2am, Thu-Sat 6pm-3am, Sun 5pm-midnight; 5F Rosewood Beijing, Jing Guang Center, Huijialou, Chaoyang District 朝阳区呼家楼一号京广中心北京瑰丽酒店5层 (6536 0083)

O'Bar

With both a fantastic cocktail menu and one of the finest terraces in the city, NUO Hotel's O'Bar is a sure bet for classy evening drinks in the city.

> Sun-Thr: 6pm-1am; Fri-Sat: 6pm-2am; 2 Jianguai Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路甲2号 (5926 8888)

Xian 仙

Bold multi – element bar Xian on the ground floor mixes a pub, whiskey bar, live music venue and games room into one vibrant entertainment hotspot.

> Daily 5pm-2am, 1/F, EAST Beijing, 22 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥路22号东隅酒店1层 (8414 9810)

BEAUTY & FITNESS

Black Golden Tanning Studio

古铜日晒中心 Beijing is hardly the best place to pick up a natural tan. When it finally reaches the warm summer, the sun's rays struggle to penetrate the smog. Thankfully, Black Golden Tanning Studio is on hand to give you that golden glow with its quick, safe and effective technology. With a membership card, enjoy a 50-minute session for RMB400 and come away with natural, healthy-looking color.

> Sanlitun: 11am-9pm, 2/F, Bldg 3, Sanlitun SOHO, Gongti Bei Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路三里屯SOHO3号楼2层217 (5785 3711, jusunghao@hotmail.com); Wangjing: 11am-9pm, Rm T5, 3/F, BOTA International Building, 36 Guangshun Bei Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区望京广顺北大街36号博泰国际商业广场3层T-5 (8472 2855)

Alona Pilates Studio

Pairing up traditional Pilates with an innovative, full-body workout, Alona Pilates offers classes designed to tone and whip you into shape fast. It also provides a personalized experience for all its students, regardless of fitness, strength and flexibility levels.

> Daily, 7:30, late. 5/F at Heavenly Spa by Westin, 1 Xinyuan Nanlu, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源南路1号威斯汀酒店五层 (139 1029 0260, www.alonapilates.com)

Narcisse Beauty Brands Encapsulated

One of a kind! A 600 m² brand-new concept of beauty salon – Narcisse, encompassed with professional brands on skincare, manicure and hair removal. Not only can we guarantee to give you the highest quality of products and treatments, but also an impressive one-stop beauty experience.

Brands inside Narcisse:

Youngfo: Facial Cleansing Center

Clean Out What's Deeply Buried In Your Skin

10+10: Minimal-Design Nail

Chic Workaholic's Lu!

Edelweiss: Laser Hair Removal

Latest Technology, Safe&Permanent

Deep Facial Cleaning —— 880rmb/once

> 10:30am-10:30pm, Bldg. 1, No.6 West Fangyuan rd, Chaoyang (inside Narcisse Beauty Brands Encapsulated) 朝阳区芳园西路6号院1号楼水仙美容品牌集合店内 (5365 9418)

Daisy's Beauty Salon

Since 2001, Daisy's beauty salon has catered to thousands of Beijing expats and locals and is renowned for its premium waxing services and imported wax that smells like hot chocolate. If waxing isn't your thing, the salon also specializes in an array of other treatments including IPL Facial Rejuvenation and lifting, a 90-minute treatment that uses a laser to stimulate collagen production and soften lines. Laser and IPL permanent hair removal treatment is also proving popular and effective.

> Daily, 10am-8:30pm, Rm301, Building D, Sunshine100 International Apartment, Guanghua Donglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华东路2号阳光100国际公寓B座301室 (5100 0556 / 0557, www.daisysbeautysalon.com)

Beijing Hikers

Want to experience the wild, unrestored Great Wall, away from the tourist masses? Or do you just want to get out of the city for some exercise? Beijing Hikers offers hikes in the countryside of Beijing every week all year round. Hikes for all fitness levels! Regular hikes are priced from RMB380, with discounts for members. Cost includes hiking guide, transportation, tickets, food and water. We've also got adventures all over China.

> For more information, visit www.beijinghikers.com

Shang Xia

> L118 & 119, L1 China World Mall, China World Trade Center 1, Jianguomen Waidajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号中国国际贸易中心国贸商城1楼 L118 & 119 (6505 3446)

Lily Nails



A long-time favorite among locals and expats alike, Lily Nails is much more than a nail spa; they eyelash services, of pampering treatments and waxing too.

> 3.3 Flagship store: Daily 11am-11pm, Shop 5009, 5/F, 3.3 Fashion Plaza, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯3.3大厦5层5009号 (5136 5919); 3.3 Star store: Daily 11am-11pm, Shop 2049, 2/F, 3.3 Fashion Plaza, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯3.3大厦2层2049号 (5136 5829); Yashow shopping mall: Daily 10am-10pm, Shop 22, 4/F, Yashow shopping Mall, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯雅秀购物中心4层22号 (6416 6441); Shimao store: Daily 10am-10pm, Shop E301, 3/F, ShiMao shopping center, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯工体北路世茂购物中心3层E-301号 (8590 0566); Ginza store: Daily 10am-10pm, Shop B1-11E, Ginza Mall, Dongzhimen, Dongcheng 东城区东直门东方银座 Mall B1-11H号 (8447 7178); CapitaMall Crystal store: Daily 10am-10pm, Shop B1-09, CapitaMall Crystal, Haidian 海淀区复兴路51号凯德晶品购物中心B1-09号 (8819 7078);

LISTINGS

CapitaMall Wangjing store: Daily 10am-10pm, Shop K01, 2/F, CapitaMall Wangjing store, Guangshun Beidajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区广顺北大街凯德望京购物中心2层02-K1(5602 0736); Carrefour Siyuanqiao store: Daily 10am-10pm, Shop 08, 3/F, Carrefour Siyuanqiao store, Yijiu Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区四元桥家乐福购物中心3层08号(647 71889)

HAIR SALONS

Blow+Bar

This salon is equipped with more than shampoo – the team here provides haircuts, dye, updos, hair treatments and more. With prices for almost everything listed under RMB1,000, Blow+ is a haven of reasonably priced good taste in Sanlitun's 3.3 Mall. They have champagne and a well-stocked bar, so bring your friends and make a night of it.

>3/F 3.3 Mall, 33 Sanlitun Lu, Sanlitun, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯路33号3层3/F (for appointments, call 5136 5432)

Laurent Falcon



As China's first REAL French hair salon we promise each and every one of our customers that we'll treat your hair like it's our own. We use only the finest imported products to guarantee that your experience with us is as relaxing and professional as possible. Come in and meet our specialist stylist and visit our facilities. Your hair deserves a true touch of French sophistication. Man cut 115RMB up; Women cut 165RMB up; Color 500RMB up; Highlight 610RMB up.
> Sanlitun salon: No.43 Building, Sanlitun Beijing South, Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯南街43号楼(6409 4243, 1350 137 2974); GuoMao Salon: 209, 2/F, Phase 3 China World Shopping Mall, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸商城北区3L209(8535 1002, 1314 667 9913) Catherine de France

Catherine de France

Awarded best expat salon in 2014/ 2015, with a trained team of international and local stylists, colorists and beauticians, this salon welcomes all ages and budgets in a modern and relaxed atmosphere for a wide range of hair and beauty treatments, include manicure, pedicure and waxing. Wella, SP, INOA, TIGI
Language: French, English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian.
> East Avenue BLD Ground Floor, No.10 Xindong Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区新东路10号逸盛阁首层(8442 5120, 135 2147 3492, eastavenue@catherinedefrance.com), Wechat: CDFSalon, www.catherinedefrance.com

Sport

Broadwell International Tennis Academy
Located inside Chaoyang Park's Tennis Center, this indoor club boasts a complete state-of-the-art air-supported structure for all-weather year-round indoor tennis, with an advanced lighting system and controlled climate. Ideal for peeps looking to perfect their service and batting a few balls.
> Nongzhun Nanlu, Chaoyang 朝阳区农南路1号朝阳公园网球中心(400 6406 800/ 6595 8885, www.broadwell.cn) **California Fitness Beijing Club**
California Fitness Beijing's Group X program

is among the best in the region, and with membership you have access to over 150 weekly Group X classes and a team of professional personal trainers in Asia. Your membership also includes free towel usage and a fitness assessment.

>South Tower, L4, 9 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang (4008 100-988, www.californiafitness.com)

Cycle China Inc. 北京非常之旅

Cycle China provides organized cycling and hiking tours in and around Beijing as well as longer tours throughout China. Some of their more popular tours take cyclists through the Olympic Green, Tian'anmen Square, and Beijing's traditional hutongs.
>12 Jingshan East Street, Dongcheng 东城区景山东街12号 (6402 5653, 139 1188 6524)

Heyrobics

"Sweet like a Swede!" they say with annoyingly smug grin and toned abs. The only fitness craze worth following in Beijing, Heyrobics is all about a punishing full-body workout set to pumping beats – not forgetting the fluorescent spandex. Differing classes for all abilities, check online for the full schedule.
> www.heyrobics.com, info@heyrobics.com

Yihe 42° Hot Yoga

2 locations in Beijing: the best Yoga for Beginners! No previous experience necessary – and if your body is a bit stiff – that's okay! Yihe knows it can be a little intimidating to begin your journey into Yoga, so they are available to answer any questions you may have. It's a great workout for the body and calming for the mind. Call them today on (5905 6067, 8599 7395)
> Daily 10am-8pm. 3/F, No. 2 South Building, Blue Castle, Dawang Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区大望路蓝堡国际中心南写字楼2层3层 (8599 7395/96, www.yh42.com); 3/F, Bldg. 14, Solana, No. 6 Chaoyang Gongyuan Xilu Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园西路6号, 蓝色港湾14号, 三层 (5905 6065/67, www.yh42.com)

HEALTH SERVICES

Amcare Women's & Children's Hospital
With a zero waiting-time policy, top-quality inpatient facilities, home visits, night services and transportation assistance, Amcare provides a trustworthy experience. English-speaking services include pediatrics, gynecology and obstetrics.
> 9 Fangyuan Xilu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区芳园西路9号 (6434 2399, 24hr hotline 800 610 6200, www.amcare.com.cn)

American-Sino OB/GYN/Pediatrics Services 北京美华妇儿医院
> 18 anyuan road, chaoyang district, Beijing 北京市朝阳区安苑路18号 (8443 9666, bj.americansinobgyn.com)

Beijing International Medical Center (IMC)
Established in 1993, the International Medical Center-Beijing counts on an expert team of foreign doctors, offering a wide range of medical services, including family medicine, psychological services, dental, ob/gyn, pediatrics and TCM. Drop-in services for travelers; x-rays and ultrasounds are also available. English, Farsi, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic and Russian spoken.
> 24hours. Room S106/111 Lufthansa Center, 50 Liangmahe Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路50号燕莎中心写字楼1层S106 (6465 1561/2/3, 6465 1384/28, www.imcincn.com)

Beijing United Family Hospital and Clinics 北京和睦家医院
> Wi-Fi internet. Lido, Emergency Room is open 24/7/365, Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm; 2 Jingtai Road, Chaoyang District, 朝阳区将台路2号 (5927 7000 / 5927 7120 Emergency Hotline); United Family CBD Clinic and和睦家朝外诊所 Mon-Sat, 9:30am-6:30pm, Suite 3017, Building AB, Vantone Center, 6 Chaowai Street, Chaoyang, 朝阳区朝阳门外大街6号万通中心AB座2层3017室(5927 1266); Jianguomen Health and Wellness Center and和睦家建国门保健中心, Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Sun 8:30am-5pm, 21 Jianguomen Dajie, B1, The St. Regis Residence, St. Regis Hotel 朝阳区建国门外大街21号北京国际俱乐部饭店 (8532 1221 / 8532 1678 Immigration Clinic); Shunyi Clinic and和睦家顺义诊所, Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Fri, 9:30am-5:30pm, Sat and Sun, 9:30am-4:30pm, Pinnacle Plaza, Unit 806, Tian Zhu Real Estate Development Zone, Shunyi District, 顺义区天竺开发区荣祥广场806号(8046 5432); Shunyi Dental Clinic 顺义牙科诊所, Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Fri, 9:30am-5:30pm, Sat, 9:30am-7:30pm, Pinnacle Plaza, Unit 818, Tian Zhu Real Estate Development Zone, Shunyi 顺义区天竺开发区荣祥广场818号(8046 1102); Liangma Clinic 亮马桥诊所, Wi-Fi internet, Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm, 2nd Floor Grand Summit, 19 Dongfang East Road 朝阳区东方东路19号1号楼会所27号 外交人员公寓B区官舍16号 (5927 7005 www.ufh.com.cn, patientservices@ufh.com.cn)

Raffles Medical International SOS and Raffles Medical Group
Have formed a joint venture to enhance and expand the services of its China Clinics. From March 30 the International

SOS clinics in China will be branded and operated by Raffles Medical with expanded services to all patients and privileged access for International SOS members. Patients of the clinic will continue to have access to the same doctors, the same facilities and same level of high quality care.

Raffles Medical Group is a leading medical provider in Singapore and has been operating for 40 years with over 100 clinics and hospitals in Asia. The joint venture is committed to maintain the high standard of quality with a focus on innovative and expanded clinical services and excellent patient care.

> Suite 105, Wing 1, Kunsha Building, No.16 Xinyuanli, Chaoyang 朝阳区新源里16号堪莎中心1座105室(6462 9112/ 6462 9100, www.internationalsos.com)

OASIS International Hospital
OASIS International Hospital specializes in serving the expatriate community with the latest world-class technology and a broad range of services, all in a pristine facility designed to provide patients with the utmost comfort, care and privacy.
> Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5:30pm; Sat-Sun, 8:30am-12:30pm; 24 Hour Emergency Bldg C1, 9 Jiuxianqiao Beilu Chaoyang 朝阳区酒仙桥北路9号C1栋 (400 876 2747, 5985 0333, www.oasishealth.cn)

Beijing HarMoniCare Women and Children's Hospital 北京和美妇儿医院
> Wi-Fi available, Chaoyang: 2 Xiaoguan Beili, Beiyuan Lu 北苑路小关北里甲2号 (6499 0000, contact@hmcare.org, en.hmcare.net)

Hongkong International Medical Clinic, Beijing 北京港澳国际医务诊所
> Dongshihitiao: 9/F, Office Tower, Hongkong Macau Center-Swiss Hotel, 2 Chaoyangmen Bei Dajie 朝阳门北大街2号 港澳中心瑞士酒店办公9楼 (6553 9752, 6553 2288/2345/6/7; service@hkclinic.com; www.hkclinic.com)

DENTAL

Arrail Dental
Affiliated with the University of Pennsylvania, Arrail Dental has access to top-class equipment. Its well-trained staff, multiple locations across town and excellent facilities make it one of the best dental providers in Beijing. English-speaking staff. Dental services including examinations, whitening, root-canal treatment, orthodontics and implants.

>Rm 201, the Exchange-Beijing, 118B Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路乙118号国贸桥东南角京汇大厦201室 (6567 5670); Rm 208, Tower A, CITIC Building, 19 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国门外大街19号国际大厦A座208室 (6500 6473); Rm 308, Tower A, Raycom Info Tech Park 2 Kexueyuan Nanlu, Haidian 海淀区中关村科学院南路2号融科资讯中心A座308室 (8286 1956); Rm 101, Bldg 16, China Central Place, 89 Jianguo Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区建国路89号华贸中心公寓16号楼101室 (8588 8550/60/70); 1/F, Somerset Fortune Garden, 46 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路46号燕莎东侧盛捷福景苑1层 (8440 1926)

PrettySmile Dental
If you are looking for professional and comfortable dental care, PrettySmile Dental is highly recommended by many patients. The clinic is standing out because of the professional team, all doctors are from the dental hospital of Peking University and most of them got professional training in USA. The strictest sterilization processes and high-end imported equipment and materials all help guarantee the highest quality of all dental services.
> Mon-Fri, 9:30am-6pm (closed Thu); 5-105-1, Building 5, Sanlitun SOHO Chaoyang 朝阳区三里屯SOHO 5号商场1层5-105 (5785 3689/5785 3898, www.prettysmiledental.cn, psd3898@163.com)

Joinway Dental
A reputable and trusted dental practice, Joinway Dental provides the perfect combination of cutting edge technology and comfortable treatment, while maintaining the strictest sanitary and sterilization processes. The clinic uses high-quality imported materials, and its professional, US-trained staff offers a personalized and private service.
> Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm; 11D, Building D, Oriental Kenzo Plaza (Ginza Mall), 48 Dongzhimen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng 东城区东直门外大街48号东方银座D座11D (8447 6092/93, mobile:1326 181 6708, joinwaydental.cn, www.dentalcn.com)

SDM Dental 固瑞齿科
The full spectrum of dentistry. Services include teeth cleaning, root-canal treatment, porcelain crowns, dental implants, orthodontics, cosmetic dentistry, fillings, pediatric dentistry, extraction, teeth-whitening and veneers. Credit cards accepted.
> Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, NB210, 2/F, CBD, Guomao, China World Shopping Mall, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie 建外

大街1号国贸商城地下2层 (6505 9439/31/93, www.sdmdental.com); Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, Olympic Area-F, 0186B, Sunshine Plaza, 68 Anli Lu (east of Sunshine Plaza) 亚运村安立路68号阳光广场东楼 (6497 2173, 6498 2173); Mon-Sun 10am-19pm, LB07-08, Euro Plaza, No.99 YuXiang Road, Shunyi 北京顺义区天竺镇裕翔路99号欧陆广场LB07-08号 (8046 6084); Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, FC222, 21st Century Hotel, 40 Liang Maqiao Lu, Sanyuanqiao 亮马桥40号21世纪饭店2层 (6466 4814, 6461 2745); Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, 4076B, 4/F, New Yansha Mall, Yuanda Lu, Haidian 远大光源燕莎购物中心Mall4层4076B (8859 6912/13); Mon-Sun, 10am-7pm, Rm 5, 3/F, North Tower, China Overseas Plaza, 8 Guanghua Dongli 北京朝阳区光华东路8号中海广场北楼5层05号(5977 2488)

United Family Shunyi Dental Clinic
The Beijing United Family Dental Clinic in Shunyi is a satellite of the main hospital in Lido (which has its own dental clinic onsite). A comprehensive range of services are at hand, including restorative dentistry and cosmetic dentistry. Call ahead for all appointments.
> 818 Pinnacle Plaza, Tianzhu Real Estate Development Zone, Shunyi 北京和睦家医院牙科诊所, 顺义区天竺开发区荣祥广场818 (8046 1102)

Vista Medical Center 维世达诊所
> 24hours. Wi-Fi internet. 3/F Kerry Center. 1 Guanghua Lu 光华路1号嘉里中心商场3层 (8529 6618, vista@vista-china.net, www.vista-china.net)

Beijing New Century Harmony Pediatric Clinic
> Shunyi, K-01, Building No.19, Harmony Business Centre, Liyuan Street, Tianzhu 天竺镇丽苑街和商业中心19号楼K-01 (6456 2599; harmonypeds@ncich.com.cn, www.ncich.com.cn)

Beijing Passion International Medical Center
This full-service international clinic provides 24-hr general medical care and a patient-centered attitude. Beijing Passion International Medical Center is equipped with the latest in medical technology and is designed to support the comfort, safety and privacy of patients.
> 24hours, B1/F, Borui Building, 26 Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路26号博瑞大厦B1层 (6517 7667, www.passion-medical.com)

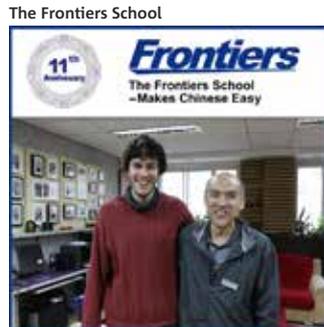
Parkway Health Clinic
> Mon-Sat, 10am-7pm; CBD, 1-2/F, Vantone Center, 6 Chaowai Street 朝阳门外大街甲6号万通中心AB座一二层 (4000 662-882, 24hrs; enquiry@parkway-health.cn; www.parkwayhealth.cn); No.101-201, Beijing link, block 2, No.6 Yuan, Jing Shun Dong Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区京顺东街6号院2号楼北京Link101-201室

IDC Dental
> Daily: 9am-6pm, Room 209, Bldg 7, Richmond Park Clubhouse, Fangyuan Nanli, Chaoyang 朝阳区芳园南里丽都水岸会所209 (6538 8111, info@idcdentalbj.com)

EDUCATION

Mandarin Schools

Gloria Chinese School
Focusing on teaching Chinese, making sure your improvements, organizing task-based, practical activities and providing 180-day student visa.
>R202 East Building, No.78 Maizidian Street, Chaoyang 朝阳区麦子店街78号一幢二202室(6500 8201, WeChat:1381 186 4656, www.gloriachinese.com)



The Frontiers School
Join the friendly and professional team at Frontiers, who've been teaching Mandarin for 11 years.
> 3/F, Bldg 30, Dongzhongjie, Dongzhimenwai, Dongcheng 东城区东直门外大街30号三层 (6413 1547, www.frontiers.com.cn, frontiers@frontiers.com.cn)

Hutong School
Learn Mandarin with Beijing's best Mandarin school, Hutong School. Our experienced teachers will customize your classes and help you learn in a fun environment.
> Room 1501, 15/F, Zhongyu Plaza, A6 Gongti Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区工体北路甲6号中宇大厦1501室

The Bridge School 北京桥汉语言学校

>The Bridge School Head office, Room 503, 5/F, Guangming Hotel, 42 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路42号光明饭店5层503室(186 1244 1282 Grettchlin)

Beijing Mandarin School

Established in 1998, Beijing Mandarin school is the city's top institute for teaching spoken and written Mandarin as a second language, more than 5,000 students from over 66 countries and more than 80 companies and embassies have successfully learned with us each year. Also recognized and recommended by BBC News as one of the most professional Chinese language school. Also awarded as the 'the best Mandarin school in Beijing' by That's Beijing magazine.

>E-Tower School(Guomao Area): Room 904-905, 9/F E-tower building 数码01大厦904-905 (6508 1026/1126); Guangming Hotel School (embassy area): Room 0709, 7/F, Guangming Hotel (near US embassy) 光明饭店7层0709室美国大使馆附近 (8441 8391, info@beijingmandarinschool.com, www.beijingmandarinschool.com, Skype ID: beijing-mandarinschool1998, Wechat: BJMS-Etower)

International Schools**Canadian International School of Beijing**

北京加拿大国际学校

Located in the Third Embassy Quarter of downtown Beijing, the Canadian International School of Beijing (CISB) opened its doors in September 2006. This world-class facility offers an internationally recognized Canadian & IB PYP, IB MYP and IBDP education. The Canadian International School of Beijing develops the whole child in an environmentally sensitive school within a kind, caring community to become a citizen of the world.

> 38 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路38号 (6465 7788, www.cisb.com.cn)

Springboard International Bilingual School

君诚国际双语学校

Springboard International Bilingual School is a place where children, staff and parents work in partnership to enable all their students to realize their full potential. They are offering a stimulating and full international curriculum as well as an exciting after school program, which will include Kung Fu, calligraphy, health and fitness and football.

> 15 Gucheng Duan, Huosha Lu, Houshayu Town, Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪镇火沙路古城段15号 (8049 2450; www.sibs.com.cn, office@sibs.com.cn)

The British School of Beijing 英国国际学校

The British School of Beijing, established in 2003, has campuses in Shunyi (primary & secondary) and Sanlitun (primary). BSB offers an enhanced English National Curriculum to 1,500 expatriate students, aged 1 to 18, beginning with Early Years Foundation Stage, Primary, Secondary, IGCSE exams in Year 10 and 11 and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma programme in Year 12 and 13. Admission & Fees: RMB102,993-246,057. Contact our Admissions team to arrange a school tour.

> Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm, South Side, 9 An Hua Street, Shunyi 顺义区安华街9号南侧 (8047 3558, www.britishschool.org.cn, admissions@britishschool.org.cn)

Western Academy of Beijing

京西国际学校

The Western Academy of Beijing (WAB) is a creative and innovative IB World School built upon a solid foundation of core values and our mission to Connect, Inspire, Challenge; Make a Difference. Our students exemplify these values through their awareness of the world around them, service to others, can-do spirit and commitment to excellence. WAB graduates are accepted into world-class colleges and universities across the globe.

> 10 Lai Guang Ying Dong Lu, Chao Yang 朝阳区莱广营东路10号 (5986 5588)

Beijing City International School

北京乐成国际学校

Located in Beijing's Central Business District, Beijing City International School (BCIS) lives by its motto: "Empowering and Inspiring through Challenge and Compassion." This non-profit, independent co-educational day school offers an international curriculum under the International Baccalaureate (IB) World School system and is authorized to teach all three IB programs (Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma Programme).

> 77 Baizhuan Nan'er Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区百子湾南二路77号 (8771 7171, www.bcis.cn)

Beijing BISS International School

北京BISS国际学校

> Building 17, Area 4, Anzhen Xili Chaoyang 朝阳区安贞西里4区17楼 (6443 3151 www.biss.com.cn)

3e International 北京3e国际学校

>9-1 Jianguang Xilu Chaoyang 朝阳区将台西路9-1号(四德公园旁) (6437 3344, www.3eik.com)

The International Montessori School of Beijing 北京蒙台梭利国际学校

Founded in 1990, MSB is Beijing's first fully registered international Montessori school. The school also boasts an unsurpassed dual Mandarin/English program geared towards helping students achieve fluency in either language from an early age. Curriculum aside, MSB boasts spacious classrooms, a high teacher-student ratio and impressive staff longevity. Tuition: RMB98,000 - RMB177,000/year.

> Bldg 8, 2A, Xiangjiang Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区香江北路甲2号院8号楼 (6432 8228 ext. 800, www.msb.edu.cn, admissions@msb.edu.cn)

Beijing World Youth Academy

北京世青国际学校

Beijing World Youth Academy (BWYA) is an international school for students of all nationalities ages 6 to 18, offering programs on its campuses conveniently located in Wangjing and Lido. An IB World School since 2001, BWYA values holistic education and seeks to give students ample opportunity to develop as globally-aware critical thinkers. A wide variety of co-curricular activities are offered to further enrich student life. Graduates of BWYA have been accepted at prestigious universities around the world. Age range: 6-18. Tuition: RMB 100,000- 140,000/year.

> Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm. 18 Huajiadi Beili, Wangjing, Chaoyang Inside 94 Middle school 北京市朝阳区望京花家地北里18号 (6461 7787 ext. 32, 8454 3478/0649, admissions@ibwya.net, www.ibwya.net)

Beijing Mandarin School

Established in 1998, Beijing Mandarin School is the city's top institute for teaching spoken and written Mandarin as a second language, more than 5,000 students from over 66 countries and more than 80 companies and embassies have successfully learned with us each year. Also recognized and recommended by BBC News as one of the most professional Chinese language school.

> E-tower School(Guomao Area): Room 904-905, 9/F E-tower Building E数码世界9层904-905(6508 1026/1126); Guangming Hotel School (Embassy Area): Room 0709, 7/F Guangming Hotel(Near U.S Embassy) 光明饭店7层0709室 美国大使馆附近 (84418391, info@beijingmandarinschool.com, www.beijingmandarinschool.com, Skype ID: beijing-mandarinschool1998)

La Maison Montessori de Pekin

北京中法双语蒙氏儿童之家

The first bilingual French-Chinese Montessori kindergarten in Beijing, it welcomes children between ages 2 to 6 years old. The kindergarten is located in a beautiful courtyard in the hutongs. Schedule: Monday to Friday: 8:30am to 3:30pm. After class activities also offered.

> 50 Dongsi Shitiao, Dongcheng 东城区东四十四条50号 (131 2025 0341/ 8401 3974; lamaisonmontessori@gmail.com; www.lamaisonmontessoridepk.com)

Harrow International School Beijing

北京哈罗英国学校 www.harrowbeijing.cn

Harrow International School Beijing prides itself on its high academic standards, a close-knit school community, a rich extra-curricular activity program and the quality of its pastoral care provision. Leadership skills are promoted school-wide, with a range of enrichment activities to help students develop teamwork and creative thinking skills, as well as independence and responsibility. Students graduating from Harrow Beijing have won places at a range of universities across the world including Princeton, Yale, Oxford and Cambridge.

> Address: 287, Hegezhuang, Cuigezhuang County, Chaoyang 朝阳区崔各庄乡何各庄村 287 号 (8610 6444 8900 Ext. 6900 Fax: 10 6445 3870, enquiries@harrowbeijing.cn)

Yew Chung International School

耀中国际学校

Located in downtown Honglingjin Park since 1995, Yew Chung International School of Beijing (YCIS Beijing) offers a truly international curriculum for children of foreign nationals in China. The school follows the National Curriculum for England but also integrates an extensive Chinese language and culture program, allowing foreign nationals to get the best out of their time in China. YCIS Beijing is one of only five schools in China accredited by three separate accreditation organizations and has a 100 percent pass rate within the IGCSE and IB programs. In addition, YCIS Beijing is the only international school in China to receive the Cambridge Award for Excellence in Education from the University of Cambridge International Examinations.

> Honglingjin Park, 5 Houbalizhuang, Chaoyang

朝阳区后八里庄5号红领巾公园 (8583 3731, www.ycis-bj.com)

Kindergartens**House of Knowledge International Kindergarten (HOK)**

House of Knowledge International kindergarten (HOK) has locations in both Shunyi and Chaoyang. Both locations offer a Kindergarten program for children aged 10 months to 6 years (Pre-school). Students are treated as competent learners and the school emphasizes critical thinking and collaboration skills, in an environment where children "Learn to Learn". In addition, the Shunyi location also has an elementary school starting from grade 1 in September 2014.

> Quanfa Gardens Campus: North gate of Quanfa compound, 15 Maquanying, Chaoyang District 朝阳区马泉营15号泉发花园北门 (6431 8452, www.hokschools.com); Victoria Gardens Campus: 15 Chaoyang Gongyuan Xilu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区朝阳公园西路15号维多利亚花园公寓(6538 2624, www.hokschools.com)

EtonKids International Kindergarten

伊顿国际幼儿园

> LidoRoom C103 Lido Country Club, Lido Place Jichang Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区将台路机场路丽都广场 (6436 7368 www.etonkids.com) ; 3/F, Block D Global Trade Mansion Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路世贸国际公寓D座3层 (6506 4805) ; Southwest corner of Beichen Xilu and Kehui Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区北辰西路与科荟路交汇处西南角(8437 1006); Kehui Lu, Chaoyang, Beijing 朝阳区科荟路大屯里社区(8480 5538) ; Bldg 19, Central Park, 6 Chaowai Dajie Chaoyang 朝阳区朝外大街6号新城国际19号楼 (6533 6995); Palm Springs International Apartments 8 Chaoyang Park Nanlu Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳公园南路8号棕榈泉国际公寓 (6539 8967); Bldg 21, Guangqu Jiayuan, Guangqumen-wai, Dongcheng 东城区广渠门外广渠家园21号楼 (6749 5008); Baoxing International Phase 2, Wangjing Chaoyang 朝阳区望京宝星国际社区2期 (8478 0578); Block 1, Arcadia Villas, Houshayu Shunyi 顺义区后沙峪罗马环岛北侧北路阿凯笛亚庄园1座(8047 2983); 20A Xidawang Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区西大望路甲20号首府社区内 (5870 6779)

Beanstalk International Bilingual School

青苗国际双语学校

> Kindergarten: 1/F, Tower B, 40 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区亮马桥路40号B座一层 (6466 9255); Primary School: Block 2, Upper East Side, 6 Dongsihuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东四环北路6号阳光上东二区 (5130 7951); Middle & High School: 38 Nan Shiliju, Chaoyang 朝阳区南十里居38号 (8456 6019)

Ivy Schools 艾毅幼儿园

> www.ivyschools.com ; East Lake Campus C-101, East Lake Villas, 35 Dongzhimenwai Main Street, Dongcheng 东城区东直门外大街35号东湖别墅C座101室(8451 1380/1) ; Ivy Bilingual School 艾毅双语幼儿园 Ocean Express Campus: Building E, Ocean Express, 2 Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang 朝阳区东三环北路2号远洋新干线E座 (8446 7286/7) ; Orchid Garden Campus: Orchid Garden, 18 Xinjin Lu, Cuige Xiang, Chaoyang 朝阳区崔各庄乡新锦路18号卓锦万代 (8439 7080); Wangjing Campus: Kylin Zone, Bldg 11, Fuan Xilu, Wangjing, Chaoyang 朝阳区望京阜安西路11号楼合麒麟社内 (5738 9166/1332 110 6167) ; Rm106, warehouse4, 653 Waima Lu, by Wangjia Matou Lu 外马路653号4库106室, 近王家码头路 (3376 8308)

MBA & EMBA Schools**Rutgers International Executive MBA**

> 5/F China Life Tower, 16 Chaowai Dajie Chaoyang 朝阳区朝阳门外大街16号中国人寿大厦 (5877 1706, www.rutgersinstitute.com)

BBA at BFSU-SolBridge

北京外国语大学国际商学院

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The Leadership EMBA from the University of Maryland Robert H. Smith School of Business is a unique learning experience in Beijing. The program offers world class executive and leadership education from some of the best professors the world has to offer. Every month one of the professors from the University of Maryland comes to Beijing to instruct the class for 4 consecutive > days (Thurs – Sun). The program lasts 18 months; the impact lasts a lifetime. (8526 2528/29, beijing@rhsmith.edu)

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Atelier is the reference art school for artistic education for all ages and profiles in Beijing. Founded in 2012 by a team of french

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>Sanlitun campus: C202, Jinxinyuan, Xingfucun Zhonglu, Chaoyang 朝阳区幸福村中路锦绣园C202 (6416 1614 / 132 4018 4908); Shunyi campus: 204-205, Bldg 2, Central Park, 16 Yufeng Lu, Shunyi (Go to 2/F from Entrance A of Commercial Buildings) 顺义区裕丰路16号院会展荟2号楼204-205 商辅入口2楼 (5686 4243 / 151 1009 8260, contact@atelier.cn.com, www.atelier.cn.com)

Bookstores**The Bookworm ***

This glass cube looks over Sanlitun Village, providing a cozy atmosphere for browsing bibliophiles. The Western bookstore, library, film house, bar, bistrot-cafe and event space always has a cultured evening on its shelves for both adults and kids.

> Daily 9am-2am. Building 4, Nan Sanlitun Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 三里屯南街4号楼 (6586 9507, www.beijingbookworm.com)

Page One

The go-to shop for new releases and special requests. With sister venues in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore, and two locations in Beijing, its network allows for fresh authors whilst upholding an extensive collection of titles.

> Daily 10am-9pm. Shop 3B 201, Zone 3 China World Mall, No.1 Jian Guo Men Wai Avenue, Chaoyang District 朝阳区国贸商城三期地下二层3B201 (8535 1055, www.pageonegroup.com); Page One Indigo. Shop LG50, INDIGO, 18 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区酒仙桥路18号颐堤汇商业中心B1楼50号 (8426 0408, www.pageonegroup.com)

GALLERY**798 Art District Picks****Galleria Continua ***

In the often-insular 798, Galleria Continua is the international gallery. Their warehouse space is a forum for high-caliber artists from nearly every continent, including several of China's artistic nobility.

> Free. Tues-Sun 11am-6pm. 798 Art District, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号798大山子艺术区 (5978 9505, www.galleriacontinua.com)

Long March Space

Founder and curator, Lu Jie abides by exacting standards from both the 20-odd Chinese artists he represents and the overall design of his topical and uncompromising exhibitions. International clout was inevitable.

> Free. Tues-Sun 11am-7pm. 4 Jiuxianqiao Road, Chaoyang District 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号798艺术区 (5978 9768, www.longmarchspace.com)

Peace Beijing

With locations in New York, London and Beijing hosting the likes of Zhang Xiaogang, Yue Minjun, Robert Rauschenberg, Mark Rothko, Kiki Smith and Sol LeWitt, Peace inhabits Bauhaus-style buildings 798 is idealized for. Go there!

> Free. Tues-Sun 10am-6pm. 798 Art District, 2 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区酒仙桥路2号大山子艺术区 (5978 9781, www.pacegallery.com)

Space Station

Not often shown in 798's sea of elites, Space Station presents a younger generation of domestic artists. Exhibitions tend to have a good curatorial understanding of space and high-quality 2D work.

> Free. Tues-Sun 10am-6pm. 4 Jiuxianqiao Rd798 Art District, Chaoyang District 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号798艺术区中街 (5978 9671)

Ullens Center for Contemporary Art

Filling the largest factory space in 798 with Chinese and international art, the UCCA has the curatorial power and financial backing to put together some of Beijing's most impressive exhibitions.

> RMB30, free Thursdays. Tues-Sun 10am-7pm. 798 Art District, 4 Jiuxianqiao Lu, Chaoyang District 朝阳区酒仙桥路4号798艺术区 (5780 0200, www.ucca.org.cn)

Tang Contemporary Art

Stressing cutting-edge exhibition installation and curatorial theory. With locations in Bangkok, Hong Kong and Beijing, Tang focuses on promoting artistic exchange throughout East Asia.

> Free. Tues-Sun 10.30am-6pm. 798 Factory, 2 Jiuxianqiao Road, Chaoyang District 朝阳区大山子酒仙桥路798工厂2号入口前行300米 (5978 9610, www.atngcontemporary.com)

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> No. 108B Jianguo Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 北京市朝阳区建国路乙108号 (6587 0888)

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> No. 1-2 Dongzhimen South Street Dongcheng District Tel: 8405 3888

Ascott Raffles City Chengdu

> No. 3, Section 4, South Renmin Road, Wuhou District, Chengdu 610041, China Post code: 610041, Telephone: (86-28) 6268 2888, Facsimile: (86-28) 6268 2889, GD5 Code: AZ, Reservations Telephone: 400 820 1028 (China toll-free); (86-512) 6763 1021 Email: enquiry.china@the-ascott.com

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> 1 Guanghua Lu, Chaoyang 朝阳区光华路1号 (8535 6888, www.beijingkerryresidence.com)

Lusongyuan Hotel

A traditional compound of quadrangle composing of 5 courtyards which lies in the "hutong" area of Beijing. The hotel building is famous for its imperial living taste of the Qing Dynasty with a history of nearly 170 years. The original owner of this large private house was the Grand General Sengge Rinchen, who lived here while he carried out top official duties, such as defense minister.

> Tel: (86 10) 6404 0436, Fax: (86 10) 6403 0418, Address: No. 22 Banchang Lane, Kuanjie, Dongcheng District 东城区宽街板厂胡同22号 www.the-silk-road.com, E-mail: webmaster@the-silk-road.com

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A newly renovated high-end premier living residence in a central location next to the shopping and cultural sites of Beijing's Wangfujing, suites range from studios to 4-bedroom apartments (60-610sqm in size) and are tastefully furnished with specially selected materials.

> 18 Jinyu Hutong, Wangfujing, Dongcheng (100m East of Sun Dong An Plaza) 东城区王府井金鱼胡同18号 (新东安东侧100米); 24hr front desk: 6525 8855, Fax: 6525 8080, general.manager@lgapartment.com, www.lgapartment.com

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The ultimate luxury in apartment living, Fraser Suites CBD Beijing epitomizes style and comfort, that surpasses the service level of many Beijing hotels. The 357 Gold-Standard Beijing apartment features contemporary concepts designed for luxury living.

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> sales@gtrresidence.com, website: www.gtrresidence.com Tel: 56756666

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> Gate, No. 1 Xiagongfu Street, Dongcheng District Tel: 6564 9999

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The Millennium Residences of the Beijing Fortune Plaza is located in the heart of the Beijing CBD which bears the most momentum potential of development and value elevation. While 25 minutes away from the Beijing International Airport, the Millennium Residences is walking distance from nearly all Embassies.

> 7 Dongsanhuan Zhonglu Chaoyang District. Tel: 8588 2888

Oak Chateau Beijing

Oak Chateau Beijing has 236 stylish and contemporary fully serviced apartments from studio, one-bedroom, two-bedroom, three-bedroom and four bedroom suites available, measuring 64 to 260 square meters. There is a 24-hours guest reception, and housekeeping is offered twice a week.

Nestled within the landscaped gardens of the Ocean Express commercial and residential complex, Oak Chateau Beijing is very close to the third Embassy Area and shopping and dining services at the Beijing Lufthansa Center. There are only 19 kilometers to the Beijing Capital Airport.

> 北京市朝阳区东三环霞光里66号远洋新干线D座 邮编 100027 Block D, Ocean Express, 66 Xiaguang Li, Third East Ring Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100027, P.R.C Tel: (86-10) 84465888 Fax: (86-10) 84465999 Email oak.chateau@oakchateau.com Website: www.oakchateau.com

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Building No.1 Damei Center, 7 Qingnian Road, Chaoyang District Beijing 北京市朝阳区青年路7号达美中心1号楼 Tel: 86-10 8585 2211 (8:30am-5:30pm) 86-10 8585 2888 (5:30pm-8:30am) Fax: (86-10) 8585 2666 website OakwoodAsia.com

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5/F, Tower C, Lei Shing Hong Plaza, No.8 Wangjing Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区望京街8号利星行广场C座5层

Sun Dong An Plaza [New]

北京新东安广场
7/F, Office Tower 2, Sun Dong An Plaza, No.138 Wangfujing, Avenue, Dongcheng District 北京市东城区王府井大街138号新东安广场写字楼2座7层

Zhongyu Mansion [New]

北京中宇大厦
6/F, Zhongyu Mansion, No.6 North Workers Stadium Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区工体北路甲6号中宇大厦6层

Diplomatic [New]

北京亮马桥外交办公大楼
17/F, Tower E, Liangmaqiao, Diplomatic Office Building, 3rd Embassy District, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区第三使馆区亮马桥外交办公大楼E座17层

Kerry Centre - South Tower [New]

北京嘉里中心-南楼
10/F, South Tower, Kerry Centre, No.1 Guanghua Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心南楼10层

Landgent Building [Coming Soon]

北京乐成中心
5/F, Block A, Landgent Center, No.20 East Middle 3rd Ring Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区东三环中路20号乐成中心A座5层

China World Tower 3

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15/F, China World Tower 3, No.1 Jianguomenwai Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸中心3座15层

China Central Place

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9/F, Tower 2, China Central Place, No.79 Jianguo Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区建国路79号华贸中心2号楼9层

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北京燕莎中心
C203, Lufthansa Centre, No.50 Liangmaqiao Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区亮马桥路50号燕莎中心C203

Kerry Centre

北京嘉里中心
11/F, North Tower, Kerry Centre, No.1 Guanghua Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区光华路1号嘉里中心北楼11层

Pacific Century Place

北京盈科中心

14/F, IBM Tower, No.2A North Workers Stadium Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区工体北路甲2号IBM大厦14层

Parkview Green

北京侨福芳草地中心
15/F, Office Building A Parkview, Green, No.9 Dongdaqiao Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区东大桥路8号芳草地办公楼A座15层

China Life Tower

北京中国人寿大厦中心
5/F, China Life Tower, No.16 Chaoyangmenwai Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区朝阳门外大街16号中国人寿大厦5层

China Life - West

北京中国人寿大厦-西
West, 5/F, China Life Tower, No.16 Chaoyangmenwai Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区朝阳门外大街16号中国人寿大厦5层西区

IFC

北京财源国际中心
10/F, IFC East Tower, No.8 Jianguomenwai Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区建国门外大街甲8号财源国际中心东座10层

Prosper Center

北京世纪财富中心
6/F, Tower 2, Prosper Center, No.5 Guang Hua Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区光华路5号世纪财富中心2号楼6层

Financial St. Excel Centre

北京金融街卓越中心
12/F, Financial Street Excel, Centre, No.6 Wudinghou Street, Xicheng District 北京市西城区武定侯街6号卓越国际金融中心12层

NCI Centre

北京新华保险大厦中心
15/F, NCI Tower, No.12A Jianguomenwai Street, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区建国门外大街甲12号新华保险大厦15层

Taikang Financial Tower

北京泰康金融大厦
23/F, Taikang Financial Tower, No.38 East Third Ring Road, Chaoyang District 北京市朝阳区东三环北路38号泰康金融大厦23层

Zhongguancun Metropolis Tower

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7/F, Metropolis Tower, No.2 Dongsan Street, Zhongguancun Xi Zone, Haidian District 北京市海淀区中关村西区东三街2号欧美汇大厦7层

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Horoscopes

Finally, a horoscope that understands your life in Beijing.

by Noelle Mateer



Virgo
8.24-9.23

Have you ever had a perfect bowl of noodles - one that leaves a satisfying, borderline-sensual tingle on the tongue? And you tell all your friends about it? And then, three hours later, you're struck with violent, ravaging diarrhea? That's how your September's gonna go.



Libra
9.24-10.23

When ordering dinner on Sherpa's, do not select any dish with an odd number of letters in the name. Also, no burgers. (They're better fresh anyway.) Do not order pizza on the 17th.



Scorpio
10.24-11.22

Success is the best kind of revenge. Unless, of course, your high school frenemy is visiting China. In this case, you can give them terrible advice, like that Nanluoguxiang is lovely on a Saturday afternoon.



Sagittarius
11.23-12.21

You will find a hidden treasure in your *liangpi* this month. This treasure is very auspicious, but not at all edible. We're just saying - be careful. Also, test the brakes before riding any Ofo bikes.



Capricorn
12.22-1.20

The stars have the answer to your question, which is undoubtedly: Where is the best lamb leg restaurant in town? It's the one on Xintaicang Hutong, near Beixinqiao.



Aquarius
1.21-2.19

Oktoberfest is just around the corner, and you will have a riotous evening at one of Beijing's illustrious beer halls. There, you will meet a beautiful stranger, sparking a passionate romance. FYI, he's not German - he's just wearing leiderhosen.



Pisces
2.20-3.20

You're visiting home soon. How wonderful! Just don't visit a craft brewery on a Sunday - if you do, your passport will go missing. Be wary of tall men in blue hats.



Aries
3.21-4.20

You're trying to decide where to go for Golden Week, and if you wait any longer to book your tickets, they'll be gone. Good fortune awaits you in Bali. Trouble awaits in Thailand. Do not fly Aeroflot.



Taurus
4.21-5.21

Befriend someone who owns a *sanlunche*, or a rickshaw with a little cart attached on the back. This will be useful when you move house, and also useful when your friends drink too much on your pub crawl. Do not drink and drive *sanlunches*.



Gemini
5.22-6.21

Drink expensive cocktails in Guomao this month and you will be rewarded with a higher 'grade' on your work visa. Don't ask how, exactly. It's the stars that say this, not us. Wear black on the 13th.



Cancer
6.22-7.22

Forget everything you think you know - your worldview is about to be flipped upside down. You will have a life-changing epiphany on the smoggiest day of September. It's still not OK to forget your face mask though.



Leo
7.23-8.23

Buy a margarita on the 12th, and you'll experience good luck for the rest of the week. It must be the slushy kind, though. The Local has the most auspicious margarita.

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